

Americans arrive in Jordan after release from Iraq

TREBIL, Jordan (AP) — Two Americans freed from Iraqi prison arrived safely in Jordan Monday following a nighttime car journey from Iraq's capital of Baghdad.

William Barlooo and David Daliberti, accompanied by U.S. Congressman Bill Richardson, crossed into Jordan at 8:15 a.m. (0515 GMT), a day after Iraqi President Saddam Hussein freed them from a maximum security prison outside Baghdad.

"I feel very great, very good," a beaming Barlooo told reporters as he and Mr. Daliberti emerged from an Iraqi Foreign Ministry car and entered the VIP lounge at the Jordanian border post.

Mr. Barlooo said he was looking forward to reuniting with his family. Mr. Daliberti stood next to him, refusing to say anything other than "a great day."

Neither would talk about their four-month imprisonment.

The Americans were whisked away from the border in a U.S. embassy car. Other embassy cars followed on the 300-kilometre journey to Amman.

In Washington, the State Department welcomed the development.

"We are pleased that Congressman Richardson was able to secure their release. And we want to express our appreciation for his humanitarian mission," said State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns.

The Americans spent Sunday evening in Baghdad before setting out before dawn on their lengthy drive to the Jordanian border. United Nations sanctions have restricted flights in and out of Iraq.

Speaking to reporters at the border, Mr. Richardson said Mr. Daliberti would accompany him to the United States later in the day, while Mr. Barlooo had "other plans" for reuniting with his family.

Mr. Barlooo's family lives in Kuwait, although his wife Linda was on business trip to Singapore Sunday when she learned of his release. Mr. Daliberti's family is in Florida.

Mr. Barlooo, 39, and Mr. Daliberti, 41, were detained in southern Iraq on March 13 after straying across the border from Kuwait, where they were working for U.S. defence contractors.

Sentenced to eight years in prison, they were held for four months until Saddam released them following a personal appeal Sunday by Mr. Richardson, a New Mexico Democrat.

The release followed U.N. Security Council decision last week to extend trade sanctions against Iraq for another 60 days.

The United States has remained firmly committed to maintaining the sanctions, imposed after Saddam's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, and threatened to use its veto power against any proposed relaxation.

However, Saddam was hoping that, with the sanctions biting ever deeper, his gesture will be rewarded with leniency at the next review of the embargo.

"The Iraqis raised the sanctions issue, but I made it clear that my interest was the humanitarian release of the two Americans," Mr. Richardson said in his meetings with Saddam and other officials in Baghdad.

"There were no deals, no agreements, no concessions," he stressed.

He said he had approached Iraq's mission at the United Nations in New York three months ago for permission to travel to Iraq to make an appeal on the Americans' behalf.

He said that on July 4 he received indications from the Iraqis that the Americans would be released on humanitarian grounds.

He said the Clinton administration knew about his plans and that he got "all types of support from the State Department logistically."

Asked if he thought the Iraq gesture would help improve relations with Washington, Mr. Richardson said the release was "a humanitarian step that makes the atmosphere better for improving the relationship, which is still rocky."



Americans David Daliberti (right) and William Barlooo (left) entering Iraq, were freed by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Sunday (photo by Youssef Al Allan)

Heikal: Mubarak must share power

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian elder statesman Mohammed Hassanain Heikal, a man often portrayed as the conscience of the nation, has urged President Hosni Mubarak to share power so that the country does not fall apart when he goes.

In an interview published in the weekly magazine Rose Al Youssef Monday, Mr. Heikal said the army would have grabbed power if Mr. Mubarak had died in the attack on his motorcade in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa on June 26.

The assassination attempt had been a golden opportunity for Mr. Mubarak to make constructive changes but the people in power had abused it to preserve the status quo, he said.

"The army would have come in and taken power. There's no vice president and the government there is no credibility. What I would have expected is that the army would have stretched out its hand and taken power," he said.

"The army is forbidden territory which we don't speak about or know what's in it, so in this case we have no idea what the next government would be, and that's the disaster," he added.

Government officials have avoided discussing the succession question since the Addis Ababa incident, saying only that the constitution provides for a smooth transition.

But in practice no civilian politician has the stature or the power base to fill Mr. Mubarak's shoes with ease.

Mr. Heikal, a widely published author and journalist who was a minister and close confidant of former President Gamal Abdul Nasser, said his greatest concern was for the survival of the Egyptian state and Mr. Mubarak's death could endanger that.

"If the symbol of the state (Mubarak) had gone in these circumstances, without a way to transfer power, we would be faced with unknown quantities which could lead to the state falling apart," he said.

Mr. Heikal criticised the sloganising and sycophantic acts of homage to Mr. Mubarak which filled the state media for days after the Addis Ababa incident, widely blamed on Muslim militants.

"The cameras showed pictures of animals being slaughtered dripping with blood (in celebration). They didn't stop to discuss what had happened," he said.

"The answer to the people should have been: 'Now I realise how much you depend on me and my first duty is to spare you the danger of relying on one individual'," he added.

"Power is now concentrated in the hand of the president... So he must say to people: 'My duty, after the anxiety you felt, is to reduce the dependence on one person. Come let's do this and that.' But so far that hasn't happened," he said.

Asked about "terrorism", the government's term for political violence by Muslim militants seeking to overthrow Mr. Mubarak, Mr. Heikal said he did not believe in the term.

"Society has overt violence, which is worrying. But to call it terrorism is a mistake. There were fewer killed in the Suez War (1956) than in the last few years," he said.

More than 800 people have been killed since 1992 in the conflict between the police and Muslim militants.

Turkish protesters denounce Ghali for Bosnia war

ISTANBUL (AP) — Calling the U.N. secretary-general an "enemy of Islam", political leaders staged rallies Sunday to blame him for the bloodshed in Bosnia and denounced his planned visit to Turkey.

Boutros Ghali, an Egyptian-born Christian, is scheduled to arrive Tuesday to discuss preparations for a U.N. summit next year. He also plans meetings with Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and other officials during the four-day visit.

Turks are angered by the lack of international will to battle Bosnian Serbs, who have targeted U.N.-protected Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia. Thousands of refugees have fled the Serb advance and Muslim men and boys were captured.

"Ghali is known as a murderer. He is... an enemy of Islam," said Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the Muslim fundamentalist Welfare Party at a rally in Istanbul.

He accused the government of "committing a crime by inviting him."

Bulent Ecevit, a former prime minister and head of the Democratic Left Party, said in an interview with the Istanbul daily Milliyet: "Ghali may not be the only name in the U.N.'s incompetence in Bosnia, but his responsibility is great." He said he did not plan to meet him.

The Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association, in a written statement, held the secretary-general responsible for "the murder of 300,000 Muslims in Bosnia" and called for the visit to be cancelled.

Honouring Dr. Ghali with a reception fit for a head of state would "hurt the dignity of the people of Turkey," said Imren Aykut, assistant secretary-general of the main opposition Motherland Party. She appealed high government officials to snub Dr. Ghali.

A Bosnian Muslim group that marched down Istanbul's main street last week called the visit an insult to Turkey's Muslims. "Murderer Ghali, don't come to Turkey," they chanted.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran seeks repayment of Israeli debt

NICOSIA (R) — Iran is seeking to collect at least \$4 billion in debt owed to it by Israel partly for oil sales since before the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the Iranian News Agency IRNA reported Sunday. It quoted parliament member Hojatoleslam Hussein Sobhanian as saying in a newspaper interview that the parliament's Foreign Affairs Commission was seeking to recoup the debt also owed from defence purchases and a pipeline project in Agaba Port. "Regarding the money owed to Iran by Israel, I should say that after investigations we found they owe Iran more than \$3.4 billion," it quoted him as telling Kayhan International. "Taking into account the interest accumulated from these debts and investments by the Pahlavi regime the amount now exceeds \$4 billion. 'We will continue our efforts in this respect,'" he said. It was not immediately clear whether the figure was part of the \$8 billion which commission member Hassan Qashqavi said in May that Iran was trying to recoup from Israel for investments made by Tehran before the revolution.

Sudan appoints ambassador to S. Arabia

DUBAI (R) — Sudan has appointed an ambassador to Saudi Arabia, a post which has been vacant for at least three years, Sudanese diplomats said Sunday. They told Reuters that Sudan's Foreign Ministry approved the appointment to Riyadh of Abdullah Ahmad Al Bashir, formerly an envoy to Germany. Its last ambassador to Saudi left in 1992. Impoverished Sudan was among the Arab states which lost vital Gulf Arab political and financial support for appearing to sympathise with Iraq during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. Sudan's Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohammad Taha was in Bahrain Sunday as part of a tour of Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, to rally support for Khartoum in a row with Cairo. He has also been to United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Qatar.

U.N. team leaves for Baghdad

MANAMA (AFP) — U.N. experts left for Baghdad Monday to see if Iraq was near fulfilling a promise to disclose all its germ warfare secrets by the end of July, a spokesman said. Eight experts led by American Richard Spertzel left Bahrain for a week-long mission to study a Spertzel report Iraq had promised to release on its biological weapons programme, the U.N. official said. U.N. officials said the germ warfare issue was the only obstacle to lifting the sanctions imposed after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 1990. The U.N. Security Council maintained the sanctions at a regular review on July 11. Rolf Eken, head of the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) on disarmament, said after a visit here three weeks ago that Iraq had promised a "full, final, and complete disclosure of all aspects" of the programme by the end of July. After having denied for years having ever produced biological weapons or agents, Iraq admitted in June to having developed an offensive germ warfare programme between 1985 to 1990, just before the U.S.-led war to liberate Kuwait.

Israel takes in 750 informers

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel has re-settled 750 Palestinian informers and their families inside the Jewish state in recent months to protect them from revenge attacks, a newspaper reported Monday. The daily Haaretz said several hundred more families would also be moved from the West Bank, where their lives may be in danger, before autonomy spreads over the territory. The Defence Ministry estimates the number of collaborators at 1,500 or a total of 6,000 people including their dependents. The "rehabilitation" operation, which will cost several million dollars, is being led by reserve General Menahem Eitan, who was appointed to the post by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in February, the newspaper said. "The Israeli government considers it has a moral responsibility to ensure the personal security and rehabilitation of those who help us and who are now seeking our assistance," Gen. Eitan told Haaretz. However he admitted that re-settlement conditions did not always meet the collaborators' expectations. Informers regularly take part in interrogations and torture of Palestinian suspects, according to human rights groups. The mayors of several Arab towns within Israel have in recent months protested at attempts to settle collaborators in their areas. And some Jewish municipal officials have refused to accept Palestinian informers fearing trouble and revenge attacks.

Arafat's support down in West Bank, Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's support in the West Bank and Gaza dropped during recent talks with Israel on expanding Palestinian self-rule, a poll showed. A survey of 1,109 Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and self-rule Gaza conducted by the Centre for Palestine Research and Studies (CPRS) showed Mr. Arafat would win 49.3 per cent of the vote if elections to a self-rule council were held now. A poll conducted by the same group in March 1995 showed Mr. Arafat would win 56.5 per cent of the vote. Only 31 per cent of those questioned had a positive view of how Mr. Arafat's Palestinian authority is managing negotiations with Israel, with 29 per cent saying it was fair and 26 per cent finding it weak, the poll said. The poll support for two other Palestinian figures remained stable. Mr. Arafat's main rival, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, the jailed leader of the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement, would win 13.4 per cent of the vote, compared to 13.5 per cent in March, the poll said. Former Palestinian peace negotiator Haider Abdul Shafi, who has criticised Mr. Arafat for not being democratic enough, came a distant third with 7.6 per cent, identical to his showing in March. George Habash of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine got almost four per cent while the remainder went to "others."

Saudis move decisively to settle border problems

DUBAI (R) — Oil giant Saudi Arabia is moving decisively to settle border problems that have often soured ties with neighbours in the strategic region, which controls two thirds of world oil reserves, diplomats in the Gulf said.

The vast desert kingdom's failure to delineate thousands of kilometres of land frontiers with seven neighbours had led to charges that even where it did not covet their territory, it appeared insensitive to concerns of the smaller states around.

Gulf diplomats said the sparsely-populated state of 17 million people, which has 10 times the area of Britain and double that of South Africa, appears to have found a new determination to settle outstanding border issues.

"They (the Saudis) are moving quickly to end these problems once and for all," one Gulf diplomat said.

"They appear to have decided that these problems were not worth the hassle, were undermining Saudi leadership in the region and giving the country a bad name... They are better off without them," he added.

"Saudi leaders want to put these (border) problems behind them and focus on important geo-political and domestic issues," said another.

He spoke of Riyadh's concerns about potential threats from two other regional giants — Iran and Iraq — about Saudi Arabia's own troubled economy and the drive to contain the spread of Muslim fundamentalist extremism at home.

Saudi Arabia's northern borders with Jordan and Iraq were largely settled in the 1920s.

Riyadh has moved so far this year to settle its border with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), signed a border deal with Oman and a framework for delineating its border with Yemen, and is reported to be preparing for a border settlement with Kuwait.

The diplomat said there were also hopes of early moves to settle a ticklish border problem with Qatar, which led to a bloody clash three years ago, after Qatar's crown prince replaced his father as emir last month.

The moves came after an annual summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE decided last December to try to resolve all regional border issues by the time its leaders meet again in Muscat next December.

The diplomats said this was taken at the time as another statement of GCC ambition that fell far short of reality.

"But the Saudis have delighted their neighbours by moving swiftly to fulfil this promise," one Arab diplomat said.

Saudi Arabia's founding King Abdul Aziz unified the heartland of the Arabian peninsula by military conquest before establishing his kingdom in 1932.

The failure of his heirs to delineate borders with their neighbours left some of the smaller states wondering about Saudi intentions, with some suspecting Riyadh might one day want to create a greater Saudi Arabia, the diplomats said.

Western diplomats in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf dismiss these fears as unfounded, noting that Riyadh has formally recognised all its neighbours and has been effective leader of the GCC that includes most of them.

But it has in the past sought minor territorial adjustments.

This included areas of oil potential like its border with Yemen, the UAE and Kuwait or of strategic importance like the Khor Al-Udaid just south of the Qatar peninsula which it has acquired under a deal with the UAE that gave it naval access to the lower Gulf for the first time.

Diplomats attribute the snail's pace of border settlement in the past largely to traditional Saudi caution and Riyadh's slow-moving foreign policy machine.

"I don't think the Saudis are starting to give anything away," a senior Western diplomat said of the latest moves.

"But they seem to think that the greater concern now was their credibility as the leaders of the Gulf, which is undermined by any claims on the territories of those same Gulf neighbours," he added.

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JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 771111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

14:00 Captain Planet
14:30 Mantis
15:00 Road to Avonlea
16:00 Families
17:00 Monty Python
17:30 Tarabira
18:00 News in French
18:15 Fast Forward
18:30 News Headlines
19:30 You Be Your Life
20:00 Piglet Files
20:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
21:15 Urban Angel
22:00 News in English
22:25 Death of Apartheid
23:30 New York Undercover
23:59 Keeping Up Appearances

PRAYER TIMES

04:05 Fajr
06:37 Sunrise/Duha
12:42 Dhahr
16:22 Asr
19:47 Maghrib
21:19 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swedish Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624591.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrace Church Tel: 622346

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541.

Anglican Church Tel. 629511, Tel. 629543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Armenian International Church Tel. 632526.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 104328.

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932.

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675491.

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Moderate summer weather conditions will prevail with winds northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly active and seas calm.

Min/Max temp. 18/30

Agaba 25/37

Desert 7/35

Jordan Valley 13/34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Agaba 36, Hamidiyah

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

readings: Amman 44 per cent, Agaba 30 per cent

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Youssef Rashid 896301
Dr. Fayez Dabbas 759155
Dr. Issam Asmar 895914
Dr. Rizeq Abu Zuhair 894295
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 726336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Naimah pharmacy 626702
Al Salam pharmacy 636731
Yacoub pharmacy 644455
Shmouni pharmacy 637661
Naimouh pharmacy 626720
Najih pharmacy 847632

IRBID:

Dr. Ali Al Omani 273082

Alquds pharmacy 1-1

ZARQA:

Dr. Fawaz Hamdallah 913644

Khalil pharmacy 965417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 626343
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896391
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 145840
Water and Sewerage Price Complaints 691176
Amman Municipality 897461
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 1002501
Central Amman Telephone 847632

REPAIRS:

Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 699101

Jordan Electricity Authority 816115

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Akuloh Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642412
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmouni 641714
Shmouni Hospital 649131
University Hospital 845045
Al-Mushtak Hospital 8672270
The Islamic, Abdali 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdali 641646
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 7771015
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7251126
Army, Marja 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 666100
Amal Hospital 607155
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 862199

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09180323

Zarqa General Hospital 09180323

Ibn Sina Hospital 09180323

Al-Hikma Modern Hospital 09180323

IRBID:

Prince Baya Hospital 06275555

Greek Catholic Hospital 06272275

Ibn Al-Nafis Hospital 06274700

AQABA:

Prince Hays Hospital 06131411

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:10 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:00 Dammam (RJ)
06:15 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)
06:15 Jeddah (RJ)
06:15 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
06:30 Beirut (RJ)
06:30 Doha (RJ)
06:45 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
07:15 London (RJ)
07:45 Dammam (RJ)
07:50 Frankfurt (RJ)
08:40 Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)
09:00 Cairo, Alexandria (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20 Vienna (OS)
05:30 Cairo (MS)
13:40 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
14:00 Munich (YP)
14:00 Riyadh (add) (SV)
14:20 Rome (AZ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:45 Beirut (RJ)
06:50 Agaba (RJ)
07:20 Amman, New York (RJ)
12:00 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
12:05 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:45 Geneva, Brussels (GF)
12:55 Paris (RJ)
13:15 Cairo, Alexandria (RJ)
13:55 London (RJ)
14:05 Muscat (RJ)
14:10 Madinat (RJ)
14:10 Beirut, Larnaca (RJ)
14:10 Jeddah (RJ)
14:15 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
14:15 Dammam (RJ)
14:20 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
14:45 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Dammam, Paris (AF)
06:45 Beirut (RJ)
06:45 Cairo (MS)
13:40 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
14:00 Munich (YP)
14:00 Riyadh (add) (SV)
14:20 Rome (AZ)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:15 every Monday

Arr. Damascus 5:10 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fih per kg.

Apple 700/500
Banana 600/400
Cabbage 120/80
Carrot 50/40
Cauliflower 200/140
Cucumber (large) 120/80
Cucumber (small) 220/150
Eggplant 170/100
Garlic 650/450
Grapes 500/350
Lemon 500/350
Mint 500/350
Mushrooms 500/350
Onion 120/80
Okra 750/600
Pumpkin 170/100
Pumpkin (small) 500/350
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Queen Noor urges decisive action to end Bosnian civilian suffering

AMMAN (J.T.) - Her Majesty Queen Noor has sent a letter of appeal to the wives of world heads of state and heads of government, to leaders, peace activists, to Muslim and to non-Muslim alike, urging them use their efforts to help end the ordeal and the suffering of the Bosnian people.

I am writing you today to share with you my anguish and shock at the recent turn of events in Bosnia-Herzegovina and to urge you to act in the name of compassion and political solidarity for the rights and dignity of all human beings, said the Queen's message.

The brutalisation of innocent Bosnian civilians has now been compounded by flagrant contempt for the force of law that binds us in

a civilised community of nations, said the Queen.

If the UN-designated safe havens in Bosnia are allowed to be overrun by Serbian aggressors, such a precedent would make a mockery of the concepts of the rule of law and collective international action for peace and security. This could imperil the national rights and well-being of other countries throughout the world, the Queen's message warned.

While political leaders around the world consult about the most appropriate diplomatic or military responses, I feel strongly that we can use our personal influence to work towards two immediate aims: to generate fresh material assistance to alleviate the suffering of Bosnian civilians who

are being subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment and to affirm the integrity of the political will and force of law of the international community, as expressed through the United Nations, the message read.

I urge you to consult quickly, the Queen said, with the political and humanitarian organisations in your country in order to raise the level of our collective action for peace and justice to a more effective level.

Let us act firmly together, the Queen's message urged, to help end this dangerous and degrading cycle of political and ethnic militarism that may spread around the world if it is not firmly suppressed today in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Israeli abuses of human rights continue -- report

AMMAN (Petra) - Despite Palestinian Israeli agreements, Israeli authorities are going ahead with plans to Judaize the Palestinian territories in violation of all international laws, a report on the situation in Israeli-held Arab lands, published by Palestine Affairs Department Monday stated.

The report pointed in particular to the ongoing excavation work under holy shrines, including Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Digs were causing damage to nearby schools and archaeological sites, the report revealed.

Muslim authorities entrusted with safeguarding

the mosque and holy shrines have repeatedly protested against the Israeli digs which in the past two months have caused the collapse of part of the Omariyah school near Al Aqsa Mosque, the report stated.

The Israelis have furthermore prevented workers employed by the Awqaf department from entering the area to inspect the extent of damage and Awqaf authorities have protested against the Israeli decision to ban Muslims from reaching Al Aqsa mosque for prayers and have alerted Arab and Muslim states and world organisations of the dangers of these practices,

the report said.

Israelis were going ahead with building settlements in various parts of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the report added, while Israelis have stormed a number of Arab homes for resettlement purposes in the past month and Israeli bulldozers were still at work around the city.

Israelis still hold more than 6,000 Arab detainees in miserable conditions and continue to subject them to torture.

The report said that 1,375 Arabs have been killed by the Israeli forces since the beginning of the intifada in 1987.



Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf Monday talks to Russian Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Salanov about his country's participation in the Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit (Petra photo)

Russia to take part in MENA summit

AMMAN (Petra) - Russian Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Salanov said Monday that his country will take part in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Economic Summit due to be held in Amman in October and will call on government-sponsored companies in his country to help in the execution of Jordanian projects, especially those connected with irrigation.

The ambassador, who was

speaking at a meeting with Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf, said that Russia was willing to back efforts for the establishment of the projected MENA Development Bank.

The minister discussed the objectives of the MENA summit and the on-going preparations in Jordan for ensuring its success. She said that the private and public sectors are combining their efforts in preparing

plans for the projects at local and regional levels to be presented to the forthcoming conference.

Dr. Khalaf and the ambassador also reviewed Russian-Jordanian relations and discussed economic developments in the Russian Federation.

Present at the meeting were senior Ministry of Planning officials and Russian embassy staff.

Israeli-Arab businessmen arrive to attend trade talks with Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) - The first executive meeting between Jordanian and Palestinian businessmen will open in Amman today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The highlight of the opening ceremony will be an address by the Crown Prince to be followed by a talk by the head of the Palestinian-Israeli delegation, Sami Shahin, who is also president of the Nazareth Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

The Executive Chairman of the Hashemite Association Mr. Ma'an

Zabian will also give a welcoming address at the opening ceremony. The meeting is sponsored by the Hashemite Association.

More than 150 Palestinian-Israeli businessmen as well as a similar number of Jordanian counterparts are expected to attend the three-day meeting and deliberate over ways to re-establish economic links between the two sides.

The Palestinian-Israeli group, who arrived in Amman via the Sheikh Hussein bridge said that they will discuss means of initiating trade and economic relations with the Kingdom.

In a statement upon arrival here Mr. Shahin said: "we Palestinian-Israeli businessmen have come here to get acquainted with Jordanian businessmen and are making the attempt following half a century of non-existence links. We also intend to visit our relatives and friends in the Kingdom."

According to Mr. Shahin, the delegation represents 19 different Arab towns and villages and talks will centre on areas of cooperation between the two sides.

Sharif Zeid briefs visiting students on Jordanian concern over Bosnia crisis

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday called for stepped-up international efforts to halt the inhuman practices against the Bosnian population.

Speaking at a meeting in his office with a delegation of British and United States students, who are currently on a visit to Jordan, the Prime Minister said the world community should not sit by passively and watch the deteriorating situation in former Yugoslavia with arms folded.

The Prime Minister, who was speaking two days after His Majesty King Hussein voiced Jordan's condemnation of the heinous crimes committed by the Serbs against the Bosnian population, reiterated Jordan's deep concern over human rights violations and the aggression to which the Bosnian people are being subjected.

In reference to the Palestine question and the Middle

East peace process, the Prime Minister said that Jordan was ready to provide all possible assistance to the Palestinian people to enable them to establish their own independent state on Palestinian soil.

Speaking in the presence of Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, the Prime Minister stressed that Jordan was against all forms of violence and terrorism, and that the country desired nothing more than friendly relations with all nations in general and Arab countries in particular.

The delegation was earlier received by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, who briefed the visiting students on Jordan's history and explained the educational system in the Kingdom as well as the Ministry of Education's projected improvement on the quality of school education.



Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, in the presence of Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, Monday meets with a delegation of students from the U.K. and U.S. and briefs them on Jordan's concern over human rights violations against Bosnian civilians. (Petra photo)

Jordan Television to dedicate Friday in aid of Bosnians

House condemns inhuman treatment of Bosnians

AMMAN (Petra) - Jordan Television will dedicate a special programme Friday July 21 to collect contributions from Jordanian citizens and institutions as aid relief for Bosnian civilians, a statement said, after a meeting was held to discuss financial assistance to the Bosnian people.

The decision was taken by representatives of Jordan Radio and Television, Jordan News Agency, Telecommunications Corporation, the Hashemite Charity Organisation, and the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs who held the meeting Monday in order to discuss methods of assistance to Bosnian civilians.

Also Monday, the Lower House of Parliament expressed Jordanian people's condemnation of the brutal massacres committed against the Bosnian population at the hands of Serbian

forces and urged the world community to honour its commitments by providing protection to Bosnian civilians.

The world community and various world parliaments should exert all efforts towards the implementation of United Nations resolutions on the situation in Bosnia, a statement issued by the House said.

Serbian attacks have caused the deaths of hundreds of innocent civilians and the displacement of tens of thousands of others as well as the demolition of homes, the statement said.

The House has been following the news about the appalling massacres and is calling on the world community to honour its obligation and provide protection to the local civilian population of Bosnia and to allow them to acquire the arms

needed for self-defence.

The statement appealed to all world parliaments, including the European parliament to place pressure on their governments to take action on the implementation of U.N. resolutions and to help find a just settlement to the crisis and halt the massacre of innocent civilians.

The statement voiced Jordanian people's full support for the Bosnians and urged Jordanians to extend all forms of aid to the Bosnian people.

Following the statement, House Speaker Saad Hayel Srour said that Jordan was keen on taking on its humanitarian role in assisting Bosnians and that the world community is bound by duty to stop the brutal attacks on civilians and to safeguard the human rights of the Bosnian people.

Mafrag farmers complain to premier of low tomato prices

AMMAN (J.T.) - Farmers from the Mafrag governorate Monday complained to the government over what they considered a low price rate of tomatoes produced by their farms and sold to the tomato processing plant in Mafrag.

A group of tomato producers voiced their complaints to Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker at a meeting in his office attended by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Saad Hayel Srour and Minister of State Mohammad Abu Aleem, both house deputies from the Mafrag district.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted the farmers as

saying that the recently fixed government price of JD 50 a tonne of tomato brought to the plant for processing was not fair and would not enable the farmers cover the cost of production inputs.

The farmers expressed hope that the government would raise the price rate of tomatoes to ensure a reasonable margin of profit for the producers.

In reply the prime minister promised that the government would look into the problem as soon as possible and will try to serve the farmers justice.

Jordan processes tomato at three plants: one at Ghor

Safi in the south, another at Arida west of Amman and the third at Mafrag and the government normally fixes the price rates of tomatoes sold to these plants for processing.

According to Petra, the government had recently taken a decision to fix the price of these tomatoes at JD 50 a tonne, scrapping an earlier rate of JD 30 to JD 60 per tonne of tomatoes depending on the quality of tomatoes.

It said that the new rate was considered by the government as fair because it does not leave room for misjudgment of the quality of tomatoes on the part of the processing plant.

Dairy producers give in to price rise terms

By Lola Keilani
Special to the Jordan Times

Amman - Dairy producers on Monday decided to cancel a planned strike and to give in to terms spelled out by the Ministry of Supply on the price increases of fresh milk as well as other dairy products.

In a meeting held by ten dairy producers at the Amman Chamber of Commerce, dairy producers agreed to buy fresh milk for the new price of 230 fils per litre, and to sell dairy products according to the new rates which were set by committee members from the Ministry of Supply, Ministry of Agriculture and

the Ministry of Trade and Industry, plus representatives of dairy producers.

In a statement sent to the Ministry of Supply, producers hoped that the ministry would form a technical committee to study the cost of production in light of the rise in production input.

The Ministry of Supply says representatives of dairy producers in the committee, agreed on the price hikes of the dairy products, which allows for a 10 per cent profit margin for dairy producers.

"They changed their mind, and called for a strike because they are greedy," said Head of the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of

Supply, Ahmad Theban. The dispute erupted when the Ministry of Supply had to increase the prices of fresh milk on September 10th from 210 fils to 230 fils per litre, due to the pressure the ministry faced from cow breeders when prices of animal feed rose in the international market.

The decision will cost us an average loss of JD 13,000 a month despite the new increase in dairy product prices, said Mr. Omar Horani, deputy general of Jordanian Dairy Products.

"We want the increase in the prices of the dairy products to be equal to the increase in milk prices," Mr. Horani added.

What's going on

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions

LECTURE AND SEMINAR

*Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Relationship between the Palestinian National Council and the Palestinian National Authority" by PNC Acting Speaker Salim Za'noun at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabel Amman at 6.30 pm.

*Seminar in Arabic entitled "The Modern Poem in Jordan" with the participation of Ahmad Muslih and Dr. Salah Jarrar at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art at 7.00pm.

NEWS

*ABC News Highlights and McNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center on Thursday at 5.00pm.

EXHIBITION

*Exhibition in honour of Palestinian intifada victims and detainees at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.

*Works by Kheir Shukrji at Ab'ad Art Gallery.

*Paintings by Adnan Yahya at Darat Al Funun.

*Exhibition on the development of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

4 World News

Sri Lankan rebels admit losing 80, including women

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger guerrillas have admitted losing 80 fighters, including women suicide bombers, in land and sea battles in their northern Jaffna stronghold since Friday, residents said Monday.

They quoted the rebel radio station as saying 17 "Sea Tigers," all but one women, were killed in a battle at sea off the Jaffna peninsula Sunday. Three of the women were "Black Tiger" suicide fighters, they said.

Tiger radio also said 63 rebels were killed Friday in a major counter-attack on government troops who had advanced to within six kilometres of Jaffna city in a week-long offensive.

The Sri Lankan military said Monday that 17 rebels, apparently on reconnaissance missions, were killed on the Jaffna peninsula Sunday evening and Monday morning.

Tiger radio promised more counter-attacks on the army, said the residents on arrival at Vavuniya, the northernmost town under government control.

They said one civilian was killed and five were wounded in heavy army shelling of the peninsula Sunday.

Sunday's naval battle included the sinking of a navy command ship by Tiger divers who attached time bombs to it as Tiger boats made diversionary attacks, a military spokesman said Monday.

A navy Dvora-class fast-attack craft taking part in the battle in which three Tiger

boats were sunk, captured two women rebels swimming in the area after the fight, he told Reuters. "There were three female cadres swimming in the area," he said. "When our Dvora went to pick them up, one swallowed cyanide. We captured the other two."

Rebels of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), fighting for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east, wear cyanide capsules around their necks and often swallow them if in danger of capture.

Tiger radio said only one boat was lost in the attack, residents told Reuters.

The command ship, one of three used to monitor northern waters and guide navy patrols to intercept rebel boats, sank after it was holed in two places.

The attack was the second in the same place in the past year — Sea Tiger divers sank a similar ship there in August — and was similar to an attack on April 19 in which two Shanghai-class gunboats were sunk in the eastern port of Trincomalee.

That attack broke a 14-week truce and brought to a halt peace talks on ending a 12-year ethnic war in which the government says more than 80,000 people have been killed.

Since the truce ended, more than 600 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed.

The spokesman said government troops who pushed

close to Jaffna City were consolidating their positions and conducting search operations for rebels in captured territory.

The army says 64 soldiers and a "large number" of rebels have died in an offensive codenamed Operation Leap Forward.

Rebel radio said Saturday 150 soldiers and 50 Tamil Tiger rebels had been killed since the offensive began and hundreds of thousands of Tamil civilians had fled their homes.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) says more than 100 people, mostly civilians, have been killed.

At least 30 people were killed when a Tamil Tiger guerrilla truck, packed with arms and explosives, blew up accidentally in Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna peninsula, press reports here said Monday.

Tamil sources travelling from the region, which is dominated by the LTTE, said a blast had occurred at Thavadi Saturday but had no casualty figures.

The state-run daily Observer said 30 people, including civilians, died in the accident, which occurred as security forces continued the offensive.

Meanwhile Sri Lankan authorities were trying to establish the identity of 21 Sri Lankans found dead inside a truck in western Jaffna, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The Sri Lankans were found dead, probably from

heat asphyxiation, Saturday in a truck in a parking lot near the town of Goyer.

Earlier reports from Hungary said that 18 had died. The Foreign Ministry said its consul in Hungary would visit some of the survivors Monday and try to establish the identity of the victims.

The ministry was exploring the possibility of bringing the bodies home, an official said.

Nineteen Sri Lankans who survived the journey said they had each paid \$800 to human smugglers who had disappeared along with the driver when the truck was discovered.

The surviving Sri Lankans, who boarded the truck in Romania on Thursday, were severely dehydrated and taken to a hospital in Goyer in "very bad condition," a Hungarian police spokesman said.

A policeman's suspicion was raised when he noticed the truck parked with its windows open in the parking lot. The victims apparently had had nothing to eat or drink for three days.

Bulgarian arrest driver of death truck

Bulgarian police have arrested the driver of the truck, Bulgaria's interior minister told state television Sunday.

Interior Minister Lyubomir Nachev said the arrested man was the driver of the truck alleged to have been used in illegal trafficking of people from Sri Lanka.



A Cook County medical examiner pushes a gurney carrying the body of one of the people killed by heat related causes in Chicago after record hot weather hit the Midwest for several days in a row (AFP photo)

Scores more die in U.S. heat wave

CHICAGO (AP) — Police vans filled with the dead kept rolling up to the morgue as another 56 victims were added to the grisly toll five days of extreme heat has taken on the people of this city.

The 56 deaths, coming atop 62 logged in the city since Wednesday, pushed the national toll from heat and storms to at least 213, including an 80-year-old Pennsylvania man who's been out sealing his driveway in 34-degree Celsius (94-degree Fahrenheit) heat.

Among Chicago's dead were a 75-year-old woman and her 65-year-old husband.

found dead in their 49-degree Celsius (120-degree Fahrenheit) bedroom Friday with a ceiling fan whirring overhead.

"We wondered why they were in the bedroom and not in the basement where it's cool, but they couldn't walk down there," neighbour Danyel Gooch said.

The nation's deadly tally topped the count in 1987, when at least 96 deaths from the plains to the east coast were blamed on heat, but didn't approach the 1980 heat wave that killed an estimated 1,500 people.

Though it hatched storms, the cool air was rushing in. It

warmed to 33C (92F) at Baltimore-Washington International Airport, compared to Saturday's record of 39C (102F). Boston enjoyed a high of 36C (97F), down sharply from Friday's 38C (100F), the hottest it's been since 1977.

In Philadelphia, autopsies performed Sunday revealed that heat contributed to the death of 15 people, said Jeff Moran, a spokesman for the city health department.

In New York City, 11 people died of heat-related causes in the 24 hours ending at 8 a.m. Sunday, said Ellen Borakove, a spokeswoman for the medical examiner.

Japan's LDP props up Murayama

TOKYO (R) — Socialist Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama Monday received support in the toughest campaign of his career from a conservative who has spent his own career keeping the prime minister's leftist party out of office.

The conservative, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) stalwart Michio Watanabe, told a campaign gathering that Mr. Murayama can keep his job even if his party is soundly beaten in Sunday's upper house election.

"It's only an issue within the Socialist Party even if the party wins only half of the seats it won previously or only a single-digit number of seats," said Mr. Watanabe.

Mr. Watanabe's LDP is the dominant partner in the three-party ruling coalition of Socialists and LDP splinter group Sakigake.

Japanese political tradition would require Mr. Murayama to resign as Socialist chairman if his party fares badly Sunday, as it is projected to do in many surveys.

But Mr. Watanabe and a host of other leaders of the LDP, bitter foes of the Socialists from 1955 until they formed an unlikely coalition last year, say Mr. Murayama should stay on come what May.

"It is possible that Mr. Murayama will no longer be able to stay in the post of Socialist chairman," said Mr.

Watanabe, long a standard-bearer of his party's right wing. "But we won't ask him to resign."

In the first nationwide elections since 1993 and the first major test of voter opinion since Mr. Murayama took office, half of the 252 seats in parliament's upper chamber are up for grabs.

The fate of the Murayama administration has become almost the sole issue in an election for which all major parties have adopted policies so similar that voters are expected to shun the polls or vote in television celebrities as a protest.

But analysts say the LDP both enjoys the benefits of incumbency without having its leaders held directly accountable and fears the contentious battle that would erupt if it had to pick a successor to Mr. Murayama.

Mr. Watanabe is seen as a possible challenger in a heated election in September for the presidency of the LDP between current party head Yobei Kono, the foreign minister, and Ryutaro Hashimoto, the tough-talking trade minister.

Ironically, it is Mr. Murayama's Socialist deputy who has pushed the hardest to make him take responsibility for his party's electoral fate.

Wataru Kubo, the Socialist general secretary, long insisted that the party should

view an outcome of less than 22 seats, its tally from the previous upper house election in 1992, as a loss for which Mr. Murayama should be held accountable.

But Mr. Kubo later lowered the bar for Mr. Murayama from 22 to 15 seats, and on Sunday appeared to join the LDP in unconditionally wishing him a longer stint in office.

"We have already announced an economic stimulus package and have the responsibility to implement it after the election," Mr. Kubo said in a televised debate.

In a sign of how topsy-turvy politics has become in the Murayama era of left-right alliances, LDP moderates have taken swipes at the Socialists even as LDP hawks defend them.

The LDP president, Mr. Kono, viewed as a dove in the party, Sunday blasted a Socialist scheme to trim defence spending as "a performance for election purposes."

And last week another LDP moderate, former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, in a comment opposition leaders have since taken to quoting in their campaign, referred to the unworkability of a right-left government.

"It is not Murayama's fault," Mr. Miyazawa said. "It's difficult to form an alliance between the LDP and the Socialist Party."

Obasanjo gets life, 14 sentenced to death in Nigeria

LAGOS (AFP) — General Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, number two in former President Olusegun Obasanjo's administration, and 13 other members of the military have been sentenced to death after being convicted of trying to topple Nigeria's military government, press reports said Monday.

There was no official confirmation of the reports.

A special military court sent General Obasanjo and 10 other civilians and members of the military to prison for life, the independent newspapers This Day, AM News and Vanguard reported, citing sources close to the convicts' families.

Other defendants reportedly received jail sentences of between two and 25 years.

Gen. Obasanjo, 60, was the only African military ruler to have relinquished power voluntarily, ending his 1976 to 1979 regime after free civilian elections.

There is no right of appeal over the military tribunal's decision.

Banner headlines in Monday's newspapers were devoted to the reported verdicts. "Coup plotters may be shot this week," AM News said.

"Appeals pour in for coup convicts," wrote the Vanguard and Tribune. "Northern elite plead for Yar'Adua, Obasanjo," said This Day, while the Daily Champion took up the theme with "Pope pleads for Obasanjo others."

According to AM News, the 14 sentenced to death had been transferred to the Kiri-kiri maximum security prison in Lagos where "armed soldiers, in combat fatigue, beefed up security at the weekend." The paper went on to say "the executions could take place this week."

On Friday, Defence Ministry spokesman General Fred Chikuba told a press conference that sentencing had taken place for 40 military officials and civilians accused of trying to overthrow General Sani Abacha's military regime in March.

Three other people, being tried in absentia, were also sentenced and warrants issued for their arrest. One of these is former Lieutenant-Colonel Sambo Dasuki, the son of Nigeria's top Islamic official Sultan Ibrahim Dasuki from the northern state of Sokoto.

However, Gen. Chikuba did not reveal the nature of the sentences, which still have to be approved by the country's highest ruling body, the Provisional Ruling Council.

Brazil arms depot rocked by blast; dozens missing

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — In a scene one witness likened to a "war movie," explosions tore through the Brazilian Navy's primary arms depot on an island 200 metres offshore. Dozens were missing and feared dead.

Navy officials estimated up to 100 people could have been at the depot near Rio at the time of the explosions, the CBN Radio Network reported.

TV Globo, quoting the Navy Ministry, said as many as 40 people could have been killed. At least 20 people were injured.

Thirty-seven homes on Boqueirão Island, the site of the explosions Sunday evening, also were destroyed, TV Globo said.

"The wounded were hugging each other and crying," said state Congressman Jose Moraes, commander of the nearby Guanabara Yacht Club.

The depot contained conventional sea-to-sea Exocet missiles as well as guns, rifles, gunpowder and grenades, TV Globo said. A Navy Ministry statement issued late Sunday said, however, that there were no missiles at the depot — only ammunition and pistols, rifles and cannons.

Some radio reports speculated that a hot-air balloon — a popular staple at street parties this time of year — could have caused the explosions. The ministry said an official investigation would begin Monday.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة التي تصدر بالإنجليزية من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Shame on sideline

THERE IS a limit to how much shame the international community can live with as a result of sitting idly by while a massacre of enormous proportions is being carried out against the Bosnian people — or is there?

It seems that the world community, especially the Western powers which can call the shots in the Balkans, is refusing to admit that shame. They are rather hiding behind pretexts that can do nothing to check the Serbs' arrogance and aggression as they go about not only murdering innocent civilians but making a mockery of the whole world, of human ethics and of the principles of civility that the West never stops boasting of.

The Serbian attacks on civilians in areas declared safe havens by the United Nations have disastrous consequences. But the situation smacks of even more disgust as one watches the impotence with which the international community is reacting to the massacres.

The Bosnian conflict has been going on for years now. Many an attempt by the West to convince the Serbs to silence their guns and talk peace with the Bosnians have failed. The message in that is clear: The Serbs see no reason to end the war against the Bosnians as long as they believe that they can invade more Bosnian territory and achieve more ethnic cleansing with no one to stop them. The Bosnians are unable to defend themselves as the United Nations continues to suffocate their fighting abilities with the embargo on arms imports. The United States, with no direct interest involved, is reluctant to commit troops in the Balkans out of fear that American blood might be shed in the process. The U.S. says the tragedy is closer to Europe than it is to its lands across the Atlantic. That is true. The war is in the heart of Europe. And Europe will not allow outside powers to intervene in a conflict in its own backyard. But Europe is so divided, so undetermined and so unwilling to take the only action possible to remove the shame in which the Bosnian war has engulfed it. The Serbs are counting on force to achieve their goals in Bosnia. Nothing but real deterrence can halt their aggression.

The world can no longer shrink its responsibility in Bosnia-Herzegovina. If it is not willing to come to the aid of the Bosnians, it must at least allow them to defend themselves. That it can do by lifting the embargo, and if the Bosnian people lose the war after that, at least they would have been allowed the right to fight for their lives, for their lands and for their future.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily welcomed the success of a visit to Saudi Arabia by the foreign minister, calling it a step forward towards restoring the golden era of inter-Arab solidarity. Coming after five years of strained relations, the visit is bound to pave the way for the restoration of normal ties between the two neighbouring Arab states and brotherly cooperation in pan-Arab affairs, said the daily. Referring to the statements of the foreign ministers of the two countries after the conclusion of the visit, the paper said they reflected the genuine feelings on the two sides, which are determined to overcome all obstacles that impeded normal relations in the years that followed the Gulf crisis. Having achieved this step, said the daily, the two countries now stand at the threshold of a new phase of fruitful relations which the Arab people of the two countries hope will be marked with brotherly cooperation in all domains.

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily Monday accused the United Nations of failing to live up to expectations in the ongoing conflict in former Yugoslavia and to provide protection to the defenceless population in the face of Serbian aggression. Tareq Masarweh said that every night people watch on television scenes of misery and the victims of the aggression and hear statements by U.N. officials about plans to be taken to deal with the situation but nothing is being done in that direction. Not only is the United Nations facing humiliation at the hands of the Serbs but rather the Arab and Islamic countries are to blame for the ordeal of the Muslim people of Bosnia. The situation in Bosnia would not have deteriorated to such a degree had the Arab Muslim nations been in a stronger and united position within the world community and had they embarked on practical steps to provide all kinds of aids to the Bosnian civilian population, said the writer. He said the United Nations proved to be determined and firm in the face of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and has maintained a crippling embargo on the Iraqi people since 1990 but has failed to take any meaningful action to protect the victims of the attacks by Serbian forces.

Cafe's gouge

By Dr. Yusuf Mansur

ON JULY 9, Al Ra'i newspaper published an article stating the coffee prices have fallen internationally and will continue to fall because of competition among overseas suppliers. However, the price of coffee here at home will not fall. Why? According to an interview with the owner of one of the four domestic companies that control the supply of coffee in Jordan, coffee that is being sold in the local market was purchased two months ago at old prices. Therefore, the four domestic suppliers will not lower coffee prices in order not to lose money. At first glance this justification makes sense. But wait a minute...

Almost a year ago coffee bean prices in Jordan were increased because of, I believe, a harvest freeze in Brazil which decreased the supply of coffee and increased its price worldwide. Jordanian suppliers did not give us, the consumers, a two month grace period. Coffee prices shot up immediately. They did not mention the shipping argument to the then complaining consumer. However, now that they have presented us with the "ol' ship and wait argument" we believe that they made a fortune — they gouged us! But wait again, before we start pointing fingers and denouncing our brethren, let's examine some of the salient features of the case.

• Coffee is usually traded in commodity markets

where traders sometimes use a tool called a futures contract. This contract is a legally binding commitment to deliver or take delivery of a given quantity and quality of a commodity (coffee) at a future date at an agreed upon price. Coffee suppliers who want to protect themselves from market fluctuations can buy a futures contract if they fear unfavourable prices in the future. This type of hedging is used by most moderately sophisticated coffee traders (futures contracts have been around since 1848). Do our four suppliers know of this tool? I honestly hate to think that our companies are not that sophisticated because that means we have to pay the price of their folly. If, on the other hand, they are sophisticated and have reduced their market exposure then they are not really hurting, but we are.

• The Ministry of Supply believes in floating coffee prices. In other words, coffee prices are to be determined by the market forces of supply and demand. The ministry does not involve itself in coffee matters, which is a sound policy if the market is competitive.

• The number of coffee suppliers is four (according to the Al Ra'i article) — hardly representative of a competitive market structure. Usually, a market with so few sellers is viewed cautiously by regulatory agencies throughout the world. This market structure is called oligopolistic

and normally exhibits a fair degree of market (monopoly) power.

• If the four coffee suppliers decide not to compete with each other and behave instead as a single seller by collectively setting prices and quantities, the sellers are acting collusively and their organisation is a cartel. This market form approaches pure monopoly and the usual law of supply is no longer applicable.

• For the cartel to succeed in its quest for market control, the product it sells, in this case coffee, must be viewed by the consumer as a necessity. Otherwise the consumer may refuse to pay the high price set up by the cartel and may switch to another product, such as tea. This condition was the cornerstone of OPEC's market control.

• Coffee is Jordan's national drink and is viewed by most Jordanians as a necessity. Jordanian coffee companies stand to gain significantly by keeping the prices high. The consumer, however, will continue to pay the high prices and the quantities consumed will not decrease in proportion to the price hike.

• Cartels are illegal under the Sherman and Clayton Anti-Trust Acts in the U.S., the British Merger Laws, and are forbidden in most developed countries. Why? Collusive behaviour is anti-competitive and deprives the consumer of the considerable gains that arise from competition (greater

quantities at lower prices).

• As a result of aggressive price competition, coffee companies worldwide have lowered their prices, so a valid question is "Why can't Jordanian companies follow suit?" May be because they are not competing with each other. If all four firms have a history of price setting (charging similar or identical prices) then the price of coffee in Jordan is not being floated but being fixed by undermining the forces of competition and restricting the flow of commerce to the detriment of the Jordanian consumer. The argument for keeping the regulatory body outside the coffee market is thereby weakened and the ministry may be well within its rights to interfere and force a price reduction that is proportional to the price adjustment of the international market.

In light of the above, — there is no justifiable reason for coffee prices to remain high;

— if one firm reduces its price then we have evidence of non-cartel behaviour at home;

— in the absence of a regulatory body and consumer advocacy groups, the consumer can choose to make the switch from coffee to tea.

After all, Cafe Gouge leaves a bitter aftertaste.

The writer is professor of economics at Mu'ta University. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

Taiwan's diplomacy, is it worth it?

By James Kynge
Reuters

TAIPEI — For an indication of how much Taiwan cares about its status on the world stage, consider the question of the "million dollar comma."

Taipei's major objection to paying what is expected to be millions of U.S. dollars into a fund at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is that it does not like the name by which the bank knows it, a central-bank official said.

The ADB currently calls it "Taipei, China", a name Taiwan feels relegates it to the status of a tributary part of China. If, however, the ADB was willing to excise the comma and call it "Taipei China", then donations may start to flow, said the central-bank official, who asked not to be named.

"We would probably be willing to compromise on 'Taipei China' without the comma," said the official, who explained that "Taipei China" implies a sense of separatism from Beijing.

The question of the ADB comma reveals how far this major economic power is prepared to go to combat efforts by archrival China to downgrade its status and keep it a diplomatic outcast in the global village.

But some academics and other analysts in Taiwan are starting to wonder whether Taiwan's efforts to gain more international recognition, a policy known as "pragmatic diplomacy," may be costing far more than it achieves.

"We should review our pragmatic diplomacy. In its current form it is not very cost effective," said I Yuan, a research fellow at the Institute of International Relations at the National Chengchi University.

He and other analysts said a landmark trip by President Lee Teng-hui to the United States in June, hailed then as Taiwan's big-

gest diplomatic breakthrough in more than a decade, might have been counterproductive.

Mr. Lee's trip back to his alma-mater Cornell university was the first U.S. visit by a Taiwan president, but shrill protests from China have severely strained relations.

Beijing postponed indefinitely crucial talks with Taipei scheduled for July, meaning the key issue of Taiwan's relations with Hong Kong after the British colony returns to Chinese rule in 1997 is not even under negotiation.

As the clock ticks toward 1997, many in Taiwan are becoming acutely aware of how much their future hinges on a territory that is their biggest export market and the conduit for most of their investments in the vast China market.

"This is the time when we should be building bridges with the right people in China, not destroying them," Mr. Yuan said.

China has viewed Taiwan as a rebel province since the end of a civil war in 1949 and tries to block its international contacts as a way to prevent it becoming more independent.

But Taiwan, recognised by only 30 countries, has been prepared to pay to expand the international recognition it sees as insurance against being swallowed ignominiously by its giant neighbour.

In June it offered to donate \$1 billion for developing nations if it was given membership in the United Nations.

Much media jubilation last week greeted the establishment of official ties with Gambia, a small West African nation dependent on groundnuts.

"What is the government doing? How on earth can Gambia help us?" asked a ruling Nationalist Party member of parliament who "did not want" to be named.

LETTERS

Sanity's final stand

To the Editor:

THE ON switch on TV happens to be one of the most dangerous buttons found in any household. We have all been warned, as children not to play with loaded guns, but my real astonishment is why no one warned us about a plugged TV. Surely the TV is more dangerous, the only difference I can see is that a gun is a more humane way to go.

As with handling a gun with respect and keep his finger off the trigger unless he means business, the same respect should be given to the TV and one should never take the decision to press that ON switch lightly. Always remember a button's touch away is a world waiting to burden you with its misery. However, if you are one of those adventurous souls that like living on the edge there are some pointers you should follow if you are going to tempt fate and sanity on daily basis by switching on your TV set:

1- When watching the news practice breathing exercises to calm yourself, keep reminding yourself that this is not real and it is just a sick joke played by the TV network.

2- If the above doesn't work try convincing yourself that it is not the news but a real bad B horror movie. All the people are actors and they are lying there with bullets in their head for the sole benefit of the camera. Once the camera is switched off, all would rise, go home and carry what would pass as a normal life in the 90's.

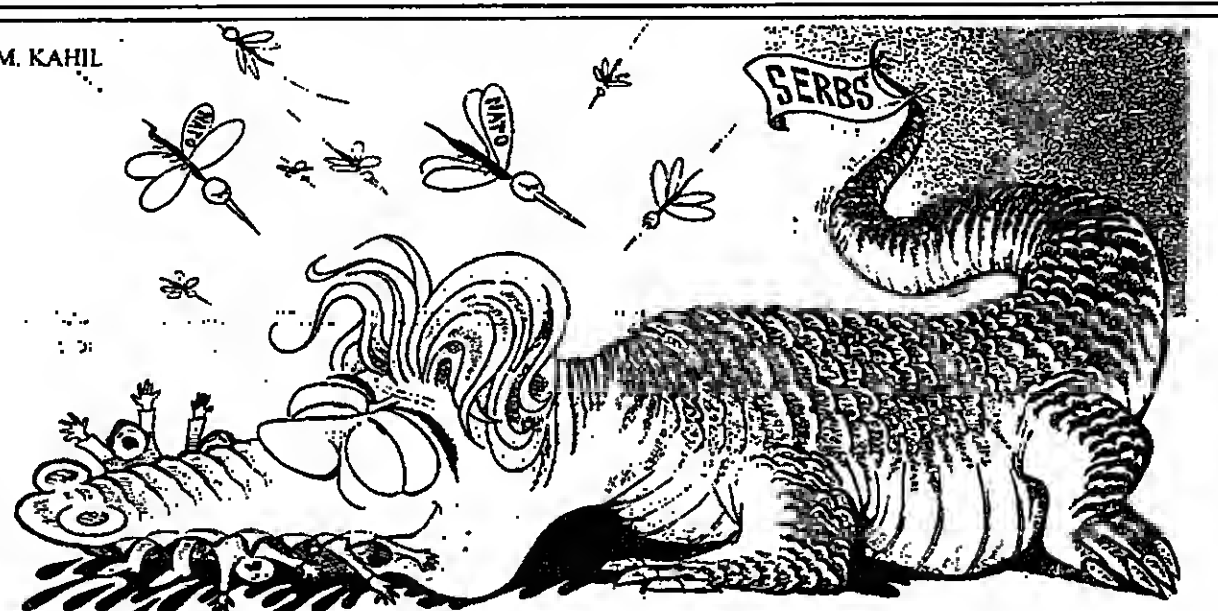
3- If the above methods are ineffective in protecting your sanity then come to terms with what you are hearing and seeing on the news gradually. Tell yourself that these people are different from you, that they must have been leading a wicked life to deserve all this misery, that nothing in the universe is random and all is part of a bigger scheme. Always repeat the idea that this could never ever happen to you.

TV manufacturers have been subliminally deceiving us into believing that it is safe to reach out and press that ON button by painting it green. Reliable surveys have shown that if the ON button was painted red 30 per cent less viewers would find the news. There was much less disturbing news than today. A common bloodshed as today but TV programmes had the common sense to show it four times a day every day. At any rate what we most commonly label as news has gone downhill, it has become more shocking but less disturbing because we are getting used to seeing the ugliest side of man day in and day out. Pressing that living room. Suddenly you are sharing your breathing space with Bosnia, Rwanda, Chechnya and another half a dozen hot spots around the globe.

The news nowadays became standardised, there is no real difference between international and national news. In both the detailing how many quarts of blood were spilled, where, when, disturbing as is anything without a reason. Not that any reason in the world would justify spilling one quart of innocent blood but it communities are at each others throats? Why the Serbs are killing the Bosnians? Why is the U.N. dragging its feet in Bosnia? Why defend Bosnia as it has on different occasions? What is making the French insecure enough to antagonise the international community? Is it perhaps because they clearly had a need for further What exactly has Iraq not done that they had a bad wine year? continuation of the U.N. sponsored suffering?

The questions go on as each quart of innocent blood spilled demands an answer. The green ON switch is looming there challenging my sanity and laughing sarcastically at my state, a person that knows everything that is going on around the globe without having the slightest idea as to why?

Ahmad Tabbas,
Amman.



50 years after, world is ready to ban tests — or is it?

By Charles J. Hanley
The Associated Press

WEEKS BEFORE they light the fuse in the far Pacific, the French have set off an explosion of global protest with their plan to resume nuclear weapons testing.

But the nuclear future may depend less on what happens on a Polynesian island in September than on the outcome of a secretive meeting last week at a California resort, where leading physicists gathered to try to help a wavering U.S. government take a stand on a global test ban.

These latest developments — a decision in France, indecision in America — have suddenly cast a shadow of doubt over international negotiations to conclude a comprehensive test ban treaty by late 1996.

The Polish chairman of those talks in Geneva sounds worried. "It's possible," Ludwik Dembinski said of reaching the goal. "But it will be very difficult."

Fifty years after the first atomic test explosion in New Mexico, on July 16, 1945, the nuclear powers have committed themselves to a 1996 target for banning the tests that over the years helped them build ever more compact, durable and finely tuned weapons.

But after 2,000-plus explosions in the Nevada desert, the central Asian steppes and the Pacific, some want the treaty to allow still more such "activities" — tests by another name.

Four declared nuclear powers — the United States, Russia, Britain and France — have observed a test moratorium since 1992. Last month, however, the French announced they would stage eight underground explosions at their Mururoa Atoll site

between September and next May.

Condemnation came quickly. Japan, New Zealand and other Pacific countries protested bitterly. Firebombers destroyed a French consulate in Australia. Seaborn Greenpeace activists tried to invade Mururoa.

The French say they need the tests to check the safety and reliability of their arsenal and to collect data, before a test ban, for later weapons work via computer simulation. But arms control advocates say Paris mostly wants to use the tests to complete the design of a new warhead.

The U.S. government reaffirmed its adherence to the moratorium. But as attention focused on France, things were happening in Washington, too.

The United States had been expected to favour a test ban loophole to allow elementary weapons work via miniature nuclear blasts underground, with explosive yields equivalent to no more than four pounds of TNT. In late June, however, it emerged that the Pentagon was seeking a much higher "threshold" — reportedly 500 tonnes, equivalent to the power of 300 Oklahoma city bombs.

In meetings last week, Clinton administration officials were trying to settle the U.S. policy dispute. None spoke publicly about the pending decision, but the heat clearly was on.

"There's a lot of pressure within the administration to go to a high threshold of several hundred tonnes," said one informed official.

The heat was felt all the way to Geneva. "Several hundred tonnes, in my personal view, is certainly not acceptable," Mr. Dembinski said in a telephone interview.

India's delegate to the 38-

nation talks was more direct in rejecting the idea of any tests at all.

A test ban treaty should mean "complete cessation of nuclear tests by all states in all environments and for all time," Satish Chandra, speaking for the Third World bloc, declared at one Geneva session.

India is key: If it refuses to sign a treaty, its undeclared nuclear arms programme would remain beyond international controls.

The Clinton administration, split between the military and other U.S. agencies favouring a near-zero threshold, turned for help to the "jasons," a select group of independent scientists on call to advise the government.

This panel of "wise men," first organised in 1958, is named after an inventive hero of Greek myth.

A knowledgeable source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a half-dozen jasons — nuclear physicists — met in La Jolla, California, last week with government specialists to review the threshold question.

Their discussions ranged across an arcane realm where milliseconds make the difference between small "bangs" and unimaginable explosions.

In a two-stage thermonuclear bomb, a sphere of non-nuclear explosives is ignited and "implodes," compressing an inner plutonium or uranium core to critical mass. Neutrons are then fired at the core, setting off an atom-splitting chain reaction. That fission explosion in turn compresses a second component, of light atoms, which fuse and give off heat in an even greater fusion explosion.

Minimal "four-pound" experiments are fission reactions aborted in their first moments. They are useful in weapon safety work — to determine, for example, that

accidental ignition of the conventional explosives at only point on the sphere produces just a small fission yield.

But Christopher E. Paine of the Natural Resources Defence Council, a Washington-based anti-nuclear group, says even mini-yield experiments can aid weapon development.

Monitoring the implosion and core compression, for example, can tell designers the optimum instant for firing neutrons at the fissionable core, Mr. Paine said.

By stepping up to yields of several hundred tonnes, the "experiments" open many more possibilities for designers, he said.

For one thing, weapons scientists could monitor the complete fission stage and modify designs as a result. For another, plutonium cores manufactured through a new technology could be checked out.

A "zero yield" treaty would block the plans of U.S., French and other scientists for new bomb types: warheads for earth-penetrating weapons, for example, and variable-yield warheads.

The ultimate recommendation from La Jolla may have been foreshadowed in an unclassified report last year by jasons who advised against even the smallest-yield tests under a treaty. The safety and reliability of existing weapons can be ensured by non-nuclear tests for the foreseeable future, it said.

The closed-door debates on the two coasts are of special interest in Moscow. Some in the Russian military complex are looking for reasons to resume testing, said Vladimir Kozin, an arms control specialist at the Russian Foreign Ministry. He said he fears the world will fall back into old habits.

"We are on the verge of reviving the arms race,"

The first ethnic town? Ian T.

THE FALL of the first "coloured" area...

Now, for the first time, the prospect of a new town is starting to emerge...

There was a surprise at the end of the week when the U.S. State Department announced that it had agreed to a new round of talks...

The Dutch were not in a fight a desperate action and we're using the Bosnian...

Asked what the U.N. war in the Balkans and the failure of roads to deliver aid suggested that the situation was bleak...

The Serbs are helping to solve the most acute problem in U.N. How to get 637 Dutch and the risk from the clash from the clash and get the harm's way as a withdrawal plan...

By Rima Co... Special to the Jordan Times

ALTHOUGH colour fanatics to elude garlic from fox feet of "endless" authors...

"It is common knowledge that the essential for concerned individuals is said Munib Saket, a pharmacist at the pharmacy at the Science University...

Israel, Pales... (Continued from page 6)

Kabariti mig... (Continued from page 6)

"After seven months effort" was crowned by invitation to Kabari... (Continued from page 6)

Disaster for U.N., disaster for humanity

The fall of Srebrenica, the first 'safe haven' to go, means ethnic cleansing for the town's 42,000 people, writes Ian Traynor

THE FALL OF Srebrenica, the first collapse of a U.N. "safe area" in Bosnia, is a disaster first and foremost for the victims, for the tens of thousands of refugees crammed into the small former silver-mining town in the eastern hills.

Now, for the second time in this wretched war, the prospect of ethnic cleansing is staring them in the face. The overwhelming majority of the estimated 42,000 in a town that was home to a tenth of that before the war were victims of the Serb pogroms of 1992.

For the beleaguered U.N. mission in Bosnia, the failure to safeguard Srebrenica despite calling in NATO air power will raise further protests about the futility of the Bosnian operation and increase the clamour for a U.N. withdrawal from Bosnia.

There was little sense of surprise at U.N. headquarters in Zagreb that Srebrenica should fall.

"All three enclaves (Srebrenica, Zepa nearby, and Gorazde to the south) are militarily indefensible," said one officer.

"The Dutch battalion there was not equipped. We're not in a position to fight a desperate rearguard action and we're not fighting the Bosnians war for them."

Asked whether the repeated U.N. warnings to the Serbs in the past few days and the failure of NATO air raids to deter the Serbs suggested that U.N. policy was bankrupt, he replied that the strikes were "in close-air support" for the Dutch troops in Srebrenica and no Dutch were killed by the Serbs.

The Serb rout, curiously, helps to solve one of the most acute problems for the U.N.: How to extract the 637 Dutch and the 284 British from the eastern enclaves and get them out of harm's way as part of the withdrawal plans.

The chorus of demands

for the U.N. to quit is getting louder, particularly among U.S. politicians and opinion formers. It is generally agreed that the next month will be critical to the U.N.'s remaining in the Balkans, since a decision to forego another Sarajevo winter needs to be taken in August.

That timing coincides with the scheduled arrival in full of the new and well-armed Reaction Force, mainly British and French troops, up to 12,000-strong, that widens General Rupert Smith's options in prosecuting his mandate.

It may be arriving only to leave. A bitter irony is that the new units will bring the size of U.N. force to around 35,000 men, backed by helicopter gunships, advanced weapons, and with NATO air power behind it — the kind of force that might have made a difference two or three years ago.

Even more bitter, it may presage the dispatch of a NATO expeditionary force of up to 60,000 to give the Serbs a bloody nose by way of farewell. The Serbs moved on Srebrenica, and may now move on Zepa, to preempt the arrival of the reaction force.

It now looks as though the U.N. is pulling out of Srebrenica. But what happens if the U.N. and its political masters do decide to throw in the towel and pull out of Bosnia too?

The apocalyptic school of punditry predicts a bigger and wider war enveloping most of former Yugoslavia, humanitarian catastrophe, the extension of hostilities to the south roving in Greece, Albania and Turkey, even an old-fashioned proxy superpower conflict, with Washington arming and backing the Muslims and Croats of western Yugoslavia while Moscow rides to the rescue of the Serbs.

All or some of this is possible. But it seems less than probable. The Bosnian war is now into its fourth



Bosnian refugees from Srebrenica wait anxiously to enter a U.N. airport in Tuzla (AFP photo)

year and far from burnt out. Since the Serb blitzkrieg that characterised the early phase in 1992 and the vicious Muslim-Croat conflict that dominated 1993, it has settled into limited and localised offensives focused on securing the valley communications lines so crucial in a mountainous country and the strategic heights that control those routes.

In this ebb and flow, and

despite Srebrenica, the tide has swung in favour of the Muslims and Croats, but far from conclusively.

Outright victory remains an extremely remote prospect. No side in Bosnia has the capacity to wage the all-out war feared if the U.N. stops issuing yellow cards and awards itself a red card.

"We're confronted by many myths of our own

making," argues a Western diplomat. "I see no reason for the all-out war. They will continue to have their little needs, to see who can do what where. In this regard, it's irrelevant whether the U.N. is there or not."

According to James Gow, a Balkans military analyst at King's College, London, the war will not

inevitably escalate if the U.N. cuts and runs. "It can go on at the same hobbling level."

Much will depend on the reaction of Serbia and Croatia and on the success of Western pressure in keeping the Muslim-Croat alliance established last year relatively intact.

Of the various war machines, the Yugoslav

(Serbian) army alone is capable of waging a much bigger war and there is no sign that this suits the interests of its boss, President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia.

The spillover triggered by a U.N. departure is far from certain in the south, but inevitable in Croatia. But the 42-month U.N. mission in Croatia is in any case on its last legs and will be lucky to survive the year. Following the Croats' recovery of an expanse of territory in a two-day offensive in May, renewed Croat operations against Serb-held territory are expected by late territory are expected by late summer. But again this likely to be limited, with the Croats, like the Muslims, engaged in nibbling away at Serb holdings.

Mr. Milosevic seems prepared to tolerate this, mitigating the losses around the edges with the kind of limited supplies he continues to send to the diaspora Serbs. The prospect of full victory for the Croats or Muslims would force the Serbian leader to unleash his army, but there is no chance of this in the foreseeable future.

The U.N. presence in Bosnia and Croatia has suited all sides and, inevitably, prolonged the war. It has allowed the Serbs to consolidate their grip on seized land in Croatia and Bosnia behind the U.N. buffer. It has enabled Croatia to build and equip an army from scratch. It has provided a similar breathing space for the Muslims to recover and build up their military prowess.

By its presence and its relief work the U.N. has also, of course, reduced civilian suffering. But that is delivering ever-diminishing returns, as Srebrenica underlines.

After 40 months, the Sarajevo siege is as tight as ever. The aid airlift has been grounded for three months, the longest period ever. The very term "safe haven" is a macabre mockery. The weapons exclusion zones have collapsed. The air exclusion zone is not being enforced. In short, the entire U.N. mandate has dissolved: Most of the troops find themselves standing around in someone else's war with nothing to do.

Yasushi Akashi, the U.N. envoy, argues that by

its presence the U.N. "plays an important role in ensuring, to some degree, the active diplomatic interest of the international community."

There is, however, precious little outside mediation taking place, with the five-power Contact Group in abeyance.

But the biggest obstacle to a U.N. withdrawal is not angst about what might follow in Bosnia or fear of a wider Balkan bloodbath. The factors paralysing a withdrawal decision are NATO's fear that it could go disastrously wrong, the political cost to the alliance and to the U.N. of such an admission of colossal failure, and the perennial U.S. reluctance to commit ground troops.

For these reasons the experts say a more likely scenario is a partial withdrawal out of harm's way that goes by another name — the euphemistic buzzword is "regrouping."

"NATO has two concluded plans, one to implement a settlement, the other for a full evacuation. Neither is likely to happen," says Mr. Gow. "In Srebrenica, the U.N. response is likely to be to pull their guys out of there, which they want to do anyway. They can regroup to get a stronger and more coherent presence, take all the vulnerable soldiers from outlying places, and that clears the way for greater use of air power."

The "regrouping" is already under way. The biggest U.N. contingent in Bosnia is based around Vitez and Gornji Vakuf in central Bosnia with relatively safe access to the Adriatic. The new force is to be based at nearby Tomislavgrad, which would also be the NATO evacuation headquarters.

The big "relocation" problems are the 5,000 troops in Sarajevo and the almost 900 in the three eastern pockets, which is why the fall of Srebrenica would appear to help the U.N. out of a fix.

"It may be that we have neither a staying or a going," says the diplomat, "but just a quiet reduction to safe areas."

The regrouping means abandoning safe havens for Bosnian civilians and establishing safe havens for the troops.

The Guardian

There is more to garlic than its unfriendly smell

By Rima Corbawhi
Special to the Jordan Times

ALTHOUGH BODY-odour fanatics totally exclude garlic from their diet for fear of ending up "foul-smelling," authoritative sources and international pharmaceutical references stress the importance of this "pure magic" to health and well-being.

"It is common knowledge worldwide that garlic is essential for health-conscious individuals," said Mumuk Sakti, professor of pharmacology and dean of pharmacy at the Applied Science University.

Since World War II, Japan has been cultivating garlic, collecting the remaining parts of the bulbs (after harvesting) and mixing them with the soil to kill germs, according to Dr.

Sakti. In Korea, he said, statistics show a relatively low rate of heart attacks, and this is because people there "simply eat a lot of garlic." Asians are generally fortunate to use garlic immensely as a flavouring to many of their meals, said Dr. Sakti.

A recently presented Canadian documentary discussed how British monarchs prohibited the use of garlic in the 16th or 17th century due to its bad smell; but, according to Dr. Sakti, because of the experience of an Indian horsekeeper, who later learned the remarkable therapeutic effects of garlic on his sick horse, it was since then advised to mix garlic powder with horse food stuff as a protective measure for all horses. Also, he added, the restrictions en-

forced on the use of garlic were no longer applicable.

Though indigenous to South Europe and countries of the Mediterranean, the plant can be cultivated in many temperate zones such as China, Japan, Argentina and the U.S. In this region, it is cultivated in the Jordan Valley, Irbid and the West Bank and has a flowering time between April and May.

German pharmaceutical references, said Dr. Sakti, state that the documented therapeutic effects of garlic and the medical information gathered about it are reliable for public acknowledgement. Garlic, he said, can be used as a diaphoretic (agent inducing sweat excretion), expectorant, spasmolytic, antiseptic, bacteriostatic, antiviral, hypotensive and anthelmintic (worm

repellent) substance.

However, the main use of garlic in treating chronic bronchitis, respiratory certain (liquid production in the respiratory system), recurrent colds, whooping cough, bronchitis asthma and influenza shows that it can very suitably substitute for antibiotics, according to Dr. Sakti. "In certain cases, garlic is combined with other types of plants to enhance its effects on the body," he said.

Many conditions have proved garlic to be more effective than penicillin and other antibiotics; hence it is used to kill many germs in the blood, said Khamis Bitar, owner of Systems Scientific Research Centre. Also, an active ingredient extracted from garlic proved, after purification and analysis, to be good for

fighting against cancer, said Mr. Bitar.

With volatile oil, sulphur compounds and vitamins A, B and C as constituents, both garlic and garlic oil have diverse uses for the body. According to Dr. Sakti, garlic was valued by many ancient civilisations as a popular remedy as well as a flavouring agent. The Codex Ebers, an Egyptian medical papyrus dating back to about 1550 B.C., mentioned garlic in 22 therapeutic formulae that are present in Egypt until this day, Dr. Sakti said.

Garlic oil, according to Mr. Khamis, can activate the body, boost the appetite, sterilise wounds, soothe local pains (due to rheumatism and dental, gum or ear problems etc.), treat dandruff, protect diabetics from certain com-

plications associated with the disease, cure the effects of nicotine poisoning, lower blood pressure, safeguard against cardiovascular problems, control cholesterol levels in the blood, prevent worm invasion in the body, destroy lice and even treat foot corns.

Documented articles reveal that garlic lowers blood cholesterol, triglycerides and blood viscosity, said Dr. Sakti. It also activates fibrinolysis and inhibits platelet aggregation, which, he added, lowers the chances of a heart attack. Because its active ingredient contains alliin (sulphur compound), garlic has also a beneficial effect on blood lipids, blood pressure and blood coagulation, Dr. Sakti said.

According to German

scientists, garlic decreases blood cholesterol and triglycerides due to its tendency to reduce the level of low density lipoproteins (LDL) in the blood and increase that of high density lipoproteins (HDL), producing a favourable shift in the HDL: LDL ratio, according to Dr. Sakti.

Moverover, researchers from Germany, England and India recently confirmed that blood pressure may be reduced as a result of the use of garlic, especially in hypertensive patients. The plant, he added, also decreases blood viscosity, thus improving blood fluidity, and with mild vasodilation, leading to better capillary flow of blood. An article published in British Medical Journal recently ensured that all the above mentioned effects of garlic

tend to lower the risks of cardiovascular diseases.

Finally, Dr. Sakti said, different articles in many international journals point out that garlic has a broad spectrum of anti-microbial activities. Recommended dosage for health-conscious adults includes a daily intake of two to five grams of dried garlic bulbs, two to four millilitres of garlic syrup, 0.03 to 0.12 ml of garlic oil or any other equivalent preparation. However, only small diluted doses should be administered to children.

With all the benefits of garlic to human health, it is no wonder that "nowadays many countries of the developed world hold garlic festivals in recognition and appreciation of the diverse uses this valuable natural resource," Dr. Sakti said.

Israel, Palestinians in marathon talks

(Continued from page 1)

wanted to restrict redeployment from villages and limit the movement and security

responsibilities of Palestinian police there.

"We will continue today to try to iron out the differences," a PLO official said. Meanwhile Jewish settlers

Kabariti might visit Riyadh 'soon'

(Continued from page 1)

"After seven months this effort 'was crowned by the invitation to Kabariti to visit Riyadh," the official said.

The situation between Riyadh and Amman has been consistently moving to a point where a meeting had to take place if only to agree on defining the differences that needed to be ironed out, the official said. "This is what the latest meeting did exactly. Bridges had to be built and this could only be done

through a dialogue that would move us from an abnormal to a normal situation."

Officials admit that "some sensitivities, some actual problems" remain. "But a mood for reconciliation has been created," as a senior official put it.

"What matters is that the talks were deep, frank and pragmatic. Each Saudi grievance was met by a Jordanian explanation and vice-versa," the official said. "Hopefully we are close to restoring full understanding and reconciliation."

threw stones, tomatoes and eggs at Chairman Arafat's adviser Ahmed Tibi near Jerusalem on Monday but he escaped unscathed, witnesses and settlers said.

"We are talking about uncivilised vigilantes. They know the only option they have is to leave our land in Palestine and move back to their homes in Israel," Mr. Tibi, an Israeli Arab physician, told Reuters. He said he was unharmed.

The settlers first targeted Mr. Tibi near the West Bank settlement of Tekoa where he was taping an Israel television programme on the future of the settlements with Jewish settler Rabbi Menachem Froman.

A television crew member was slightly injured. A short time later settlers, waiting for him near the Efrat settlement, blocked the road with their cars. When Mr. Tibi approached in his car, several dozen settlers began throwing rocks and eggs, the witnesses said.

Aharon Domb, a spokesman for the settlers who confirmed the incidents, said Mr. Tibi should consider himself lucky to have escaped unharmed.

"Any enemy of Israel... deserves worse," Mr. Domb said.

Also Monday, right-wing protesters rioted outside a court where Jewish teenagers arrested in occupied West Bank were appearing.

Jewish settlers also put up mobile homes and a makeshift synagogue at Olive Hill, a West Bank site where they blocked roads and scuffled with police last week in protest over the planned Israeli troop withdrawal.

Resistance by Jewish settlers in the West Bank is growing as Israel and the PLO negotiate the final details of a troop pullout and expansion of Palestinian self-rule.

Two police officers were hurt and three protesters were arrested in Monday's protest outside the Jerusalem

magistrate's court, a police spokesman said.

Twenty-five people were detained early Sunday for demonstrating and blocking traffic outside the police station in Hebron, where a teenager was being questioned for shooting a Palestinian man with a slingshot.

Eight teenagers who were arrested appeared in court Monday morning and were released, police said.

"It is very hard to believe that Jews treat Jews like they are enemies," said one of the teens.

Near the Kiryat Arba settlement next to Hebron, dozens of settlers occupied a vacant apartment building on Sunday night. Settler Rina Kadosh said the action was a protest against the detention of the teenagers.

Rabin defends Arafat

Prime Minister Rabin dismissed international criticism of Mr. Arafat's crackdown on Islamic militants, saying hu-

man rights violations counted less than success in stopping terrorism.

In a speech to Jewish fund-raisers, Mr. Rabin noted a report from the human rights group Amnesty International that blasted Mr. Arafat for violating international conventions.

"I wish that no one will support Amnesty about this issue," he said.

Amnesty demanded in April that Mr. Arafat dismantle a military court that has secretly tried more than a dozen suspected Islamic militants, including four 14-year-olds.

Mr. Arafat set up the court in response to pressure from Israel and the United States to combat violent opposition to the peace process.

Mr. Rabin said most important was that Mr. Arafat was attempting to stop violence that has killed 124 Israelis since the signing of the Israeli-PLO peace treaty in September 1993.

House panel demands equal treatment

(Continued from page 1)

In the Parliament's session at the end of last month, opposition deputies, headed by the IAF's 16-member bloc, managed only 21 votes against 46 in favour of referring the draft law to the joint Judiciary and Financial Committees.

While Islamist deputies strongly fought against the draft law in principle, centrist deputies called for conditioning land sale to Israel with reciprocal action from the Jewish state.

They argued that the Israeli government owns 93 per cent of the land in the Jewish state and bans the sale of private ownership to foreigners. The Israeli real estate market is closed to all foreigners in accordance with Israeli laws.

Dr. Dughmi asserted that the new amendments added to the draft law included all forms of safeguards against any future manipulation of the law and that all land sale or lease to foreigners will be controlled by the government.

The Islamic deputies had also exerted several attempts in the past to block or postpone the discussion of the draft law.

The draft law is expected to be referred to the House next week. On the House's agenda at the moment is the draft labour law with 108 out of its 145 articles approved. On Wednesday's agenda is a 35-article draft law on the environment that is not expected to draw extensive debate.

business daily beat.
A review of economic news from the Arabic press

Jordan to take part in 3 trade fairs

The Jordan Export Development and Commercial Centres Corporation will participate in three international fairs which will be held in Syria, Greece and South Africa. JEDCO sources said 34 Jordanian companies applied to participate in the Damascus International Fair which will be held in the period Aug.-Sept. 10. The sources said 19 Jordanian companies also applied to take part in a fair in Athens, Greece, in the period Sept. 9-18 and 37 companies in the South African fair in the period Oct. 24-28. Meanwhile, JEDCO is still preparing for holding the first Jordanian industrial fair in London in the period Nov. 14-18. The Jordanian embassy in London was asked by JEDCO to arrange for holding the fair in the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce, which offered to host the fair for free (Al Rai).

The general assembly of the Petra Projects and Equipment Leasing Company and the Jordan and the Gulf Real Estate Investments Company agreed to merge the two companies in one shareholding company to be named Al Itihad (union) Land Development Company. The JD 4.5 capital of the Jordan and Gulf Real Estate Development Company and JD 500,000 capital of the Petra company will be combined to constitute the JD 5 million capital of the new company. The new company's shareholders will meet within two weeks to elect a board of directors and auditors. The head of an executive committee supervising the process of merging the two companies suffering from financial problems, Mohammad Bilbeisi, said the merger took place after a group of investors intervened to save the two companies. He said the new company will be importing and buying various construction and agricultural machinery and equipment and will be leasing them. The capital of the Jordan and Gulf company was earlier reduced from JD 3 million to JD 1.5 million because of the accumulative losses it suffered. A group of investors recently raised the capital to JD 4.5 million. The Petra company's capital was reduced from JD 1 million to JD 500,000 for the same reason (Al Rai).

Jordan's consumption of bread rose from 88.6 kilograms a year in 1986 to 116.7 kilograms in 1992. President of the Bakeries Owners Association Abdul Ilah Hamawi said. He said 90 per cent of bread produced in Jordan is Arabic, or pita bread (Al Aswak).

Saudi says to self finance huge plane deal

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia's powerful Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan was quoted on Monday as saying the government would itself finance a deal worth about \$7.5 billion for 61 U.S.-made aircraft. "God willing, the financing will in all circumstances be from the state's treasury," Prince Sultan was quoted as saying late on Sunday in response to a question. "But how, when and on what basis, that is left to the finance minister to handle," he said in remarks carried by the official Saudi Press Agency.

One senior banker said Prince Sultan's remarks "are a very important development. It is the first (official) indication ever they (Riyadh) would provide guarantees."

"It is a good indication that the government will pay," he added saying that it could mean that Riyadh was no longer considering project or commercial financing. But some diplomats and bankers appeared confused. They said the remarks did not appear to shed new light on financing terms for what has been dubbed "the deal of the decade" to renew the ageing fleet of the flag-carrier Saudi Arabian Airlines Corp. (Saudia).

It also remained unclear if differences with the U.S. export credit agency Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank on guarantees for the deal had been resolved. "It could be nothing at all, just a quick answer to a question," said a western source in Riyadh. "We really have no clarifications and it is very confusing."

A western economic attache in Riyadh said "it is really still unclear what the prince means ... it is confusing." A month ago, the prince disclosed the long-awaited breakdown of aircraft allocations to Boeing Co. and McDonnell Douglas Corp. and said contracts would be signed "within a few days." Engine allocations are yet to be announced. "While the technical assessment of the deal finalised, there was nothing final then on financing," said a senior banker in the kingdom. "We were not there

yet," he added. Riyadh has held talks with Ex-Im Bank to guarantee 85 per cent of the deal. It was at the same time considering other options including commercial financing.

Saudi Arabia, strapped for cash in recent years due to weak oil prices, has apparently secured an accord with the aircraft makers to split guarantees needed for the remaining 15 per cent, industry experts said earlier.

Saudi Arabia recorded a \$10.7 billion deficit in its 1994 budget despite cutting the budget by 20 per cent. But this year oil income has been higher than forecast, fuelling hopes that a \$4 billion shortfall in the \$40 billion budget could disappear.

Iran seeks new aircraft, but on soft loan basis. He did not say how many aircraft the country planned to buy or from whom, but said it was not interested in buying U.S.-manufactured Boeings because it had offers from other manufacturers such as Europe's Airbus Industrie.

U.S. President Bill Clinton in May announced a ban on U.S. companies dealing with Iran because of its alleged sponsorship of terrorism and its efforts to acquire nuclear weapons. Iran denies the charges.

Iran has two state-owned airlines, Iran Air and Iran Asseman Airlines, and several small, newly established private carriers. Mr. Torkan said Iran had been offered passenger planes from French, Russian, Chinese and Dutch manufacturers. "We have no problem in this regard," he said. "Iran Air purchased five Airbus and six Fokker planes, and Asseman purchased four Boeing 727s, four Fokkers and five ATR passenger planes since the advent of the Islamic revolution in 1979, he said."

ATR is a Franco-Italian joint venture and Fokker is Dutch. The magazine Flight International said in April Iran Air had a fleet of 31 aircraft — 18 Boeings of various types, five Airbus A-300-B2s, two Airbus A-300-600s and six Fokker 100s. Asseman had 20 planes, four of them Boeing 727s, it said.

Mr. Torkan said Iran's supreme economic council was studying his ministry's proposal for raising air ticket prices. He said Iranian airlines were currently charging \$10 per hour of flights, compared with \$140 in the United States, \$100 in Europe and \$80 in Asia. The low fares meant no capital investment could be made in the industry from ticket sales, Mr. Torkan said.

| Currency | New York Close 14/7/95 | Tokyo Close 17/7/95 |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Sterling Pound | 1.5945 | 1.5940** |
| Deutsche Mark | 1.3910 | 1.3974 |
| Swiss Franc | 1.1635 | 1.1678** |
| French Franc | 4.8475 | 4.8572** |
| Japanese Yen | 87.85 | 88.65 |
| European Currency Unit | 1.3403 | 1.3273** |

Source: Reuters
* Last for 1994
** European Opening 8:00 a.m. GMT

| Currency | 1 MTH | 3 MTHS | 6 MTHS | 12 MTHS |
|------------------------|-------|--------|--------|---------|
| U.S. Dollar | 5.62 | 5.56 | 5.50 | 5.43 |
| Sterling Pound | 6.50 | 6.62 | 6.75 | 7.00 |
| Deutsche Mark | 4.31 | 4.31 | 4.31 | 4.31 |
| Swiss Franc | 8.15 | 8.15 | 8.15 | 8.15 |
| French Franc | 6.52 | 6.31 | 6.18 | 6.12 |
| Japanese Yen | 0.58 | 0.68 | 0.62 | 0.62 |
| European Currency Unit | 4.46 | 5.87 | 5.96 | 6.09 |

| Commodity | USD/oz | JD/Gm | Commodity | USD/oz | JD/Gm |
|-----------|--------|-------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Gold | 388.15 | 7.50 | Silver | 5.23 | 0.110 |

| Currency | Buy | Offer |
|----------------|--------|--------|
| U.S. Dollar | 0.6980 | 0.7000 |
| Sterling Pound | 1.1095 | 1.1150 |
| Deutsche Mark | 0.4588 | 0.5013 |
| Swiss Franc | 0.5965 | 0.5995 |
| French Franc | 0.1436 | 0.1443 |
| Japanese Yen | 0.7663 | 0.7902 |
| Dutch Guilder | 0.4456 | 0.4480 |
| Swedish Krona | 0.0432 | 0.0454 |
| Italian Lira | 0.0432 | 0.0454 |
| Belgian Franc | 0.0432 | 0.0454 |

| Currency | Buy | Offer |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| Bahraini Dinar | 1.6350 | 1.6400 |
| Lebanese Lira | 0.042150 | 0.043260 |
| Saudi Riyal | 0.1856 | 0.1876 |
| Kuwaiti Dinar | 2.2900 | 2.3500 |
| Qatari Riyal | 0.1905 | 0.1916 |
| Egyptian Pound | 0.1000 | 0.2160 |
| Omani Riyal | 1.8040 | 1.8150 |
| UAE Dirham | 0.1895 | 0.1904 |
| Greek Drachma | 0.2785 | 0.3285 |
| Cypriot Pound | 1.5005 | 1.5850 |

| Currency | Buy | Offer |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------|
| U.S. \$1.00 costs | 1.3556/66 | 1.3962/72 |
| Canadian dollar | 1.5636/46 | 1.1678/88 |
| Deutschemarks | 28.72/76 | 4.8550/00 |
| Dutch guilders | 1610.2/5.2 | 88.70/80 |
| Swiss francs | 7.1825/25 | 6.1990/40 |
| Belgian francs | 5.4375/25 | 5.1593/46 |
| French francs | 3388.20/388.70 | |
| Italian lire | | |
| Japanese yen | | |
| Swedish crowns | | |
| Norwegian crowns | | |
| Danish crowns | | |

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| COMPANY'S NAME | NO. OF SHARES TRADED | VALUE TRADED JD | PREV. CLOSING PRICE | CLOSING PRICE |
| ARAB BANK PIG | 650 | 138495 | 211.000 | 209.500 |
| JORDAN NATIONAL BANK | 4583 | 20926 | 4.560 | 4.560 |
| BANK OF JORDAN | 1100 | 3740 | 3.420 | 3.400 |
| INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK | 200 | 510 | 2.540 | 2.550 |
| THE HOUSING BANK | 700 | 5679 | 8.100 | 8.120 |
| JORDAN KOWAT BANK | 1179 | 3355 | 2.850 | 2.840 |
| ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK | 500000 | 1975000 | 3.900 | 3.950 |
| JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK | 1666 | 6239 | 3.740 | 3.760 |
| JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK | 2500 | 10790 | 4.150 | 4.150 |
| UNITED MIDDLE EAST & CONNORDE HOTELS | 925 | 925 | 3.700 | 3.700 |
| NETT ELMAL SAVINGS INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING | 37954 | 42507 | 1.110 | 1.120 |
| AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT | 1700 | 8774 | 5.150 | 5.250 |
| ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN | 16000 | 27449 | 1.720 | 1.710 |
| PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK | | | | |
| BANKS SECTOR | 568592 | 2244383 | INDEX NUMBER: 175.58 | CHANGE: -0.47 |
| JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE | 250 | 663 | 2.650 | 2.650 |
| YARMOUK INSURANCE & REINSURANCE | 1000 | 3300 | 3.260 | 3.300 |
| ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE | 250 | 663 | 2.650 | 2.650 |
| THE NATIONAL ABLIA INSURANCE | 2672 | 8016 | 3.000 | 3.000 |
| INSURANCE SECTOR | 4172 | 12641 | INDEX NUMBER: 135.68 | CHANGE: +0.08 |
| JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER | 38294 | 63989 | 1.640 | 1.680 |
| ARAB INTERNATIONAL HOTELS | 5300 | 30210 | 6.000 | 5.700 |
| JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES | 500 | 1428 | 2.860 | 2.860 |
| NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES | 2150 | 4744 | 2.200 | 2.210 |
| REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT | 1650 | 1700 | 1.010 | 1.030 |
| UNITED MIDDLE EAST & CONNORDE HOTELS | 4750 | 10440 | 2.220 | 2.200 |
| ARAB INVEST. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION | 8775 | 28694 | 3.270 | 3.270 |
| SERVICES SECTOR | 61449 | 141240 | INDEX NUMBER: 129.53 | CHANGE: -0.94 |
| THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES | 5795 | 20965 | 3.590 | 3.650 |
| ARAB PROSPECT MINES | 1700 | 5109 | 3.000 | 3.010 |
| THE ARAB POTASH | 400 | 2040 | 5.100 | 5.100 |
| JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY | 5280 | 54135 | 10.130 | 10.300 |
| THE JORDAN WORTED MILLS | 650 | 5021 | 7.750 | 7.750 |
| ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING | 3566 | 17155 | 4.790 | 4.830 |
| JORDAN DAIRY | 750 | 1725 | 2.300 | 2.300 |
| THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING | 1850 | 4697 | 2.530 | 2.540 |
| DAR AL DAKA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT | 2300 | 17865 | 7.800 | 7.800 |
| ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE | 3000 | 2250 | 7.400 | 7.500 |
| ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY | 400 | 2170 | 5.450 | 5.450 |
| LIVESTOCK & POULTRY | 84100 | 42050 | 500 | 500 |
| ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING | 950 | 1311 | 1.380 | 1.380 |
| NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY | 250 | 578 | 2.330 | 2.330 |
| NATIONAL INDUSTRIES | 200417 | 228467 | 1.130 | 1.140 |
| INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES | 2750 | 6315 | 2.260 | 2.280 |
| NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING | 350 | 1687 | 5.070 | 4.820 |
| JORDAN GULF-INDUSTRIALS | 3550 | 5544 | 1.560 | 1.570 |
| ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS | 650 | 1428 | 2.200 | 2.150 |
| UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES | 1100 | 3509 | 3.170 | 3.190 |
| JORDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO. | 30990 | 66229 | 2.100 | 2.160 |
| JORDAN NEW CABLE COMPANY | 1150 | 21632 | 1.860 | 1.870 |
| INDUSTRIAL SECTOR | 362325 | 512096 | INDEX NUMBER: 128.11 | CHANGE: +0.69 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 996598 | 2910360 | INDEX NUMBER: 152.24 | CHANGE: -0.12 |
| NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET | | | | 155715 |
| VALUE TRADED IN PARALLEL MARKET | | | | 184652 |

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Chris Evert

Evert inducted into Tennis Hall of Fame

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (AP) — For someone whose game was basic baseline — some called it boring — Chris Evert sure made a showy entrance into the international tennis Hall of Fame.

Former U.S. President George Bush did the honors Sunday, presenting Evert with her enshrinement certificate at the site where America's first national championship was held.

"This weekend is not only about the results, but the beginning," Evert said.

However, the results of her 18-year career were staggering.

She won at least one Grand Slam tournament singles title every year between 1974 and 1986 — three times at Wimbledon, twice at the Australian Open, a record of seven French Opens and six U.S. Opens. Add three Grand Slam doubles victories — two with arch-rival Martina Navratilova — and 139 other professional singles

titles and the "boring baseline" tag simply disappears. "I belong here," Evert said of the Hall of Fame. "This is one big happy family."

And her entire family shared occasion with her. Besides her husband, former Alpine skier Andy Mill, others watching the ceremony included her parents, Jim and Colette, and most of her siblings and their families.

Sunday's festivity was a rare time when a former American president played what he called "a cameo role."

"I don't do news conference. I don't do issues. I do what I like to do in life," Bush said shortly after arriving in Newport, once the playground of America's richest families. "I came here as a tennis fan, sometime player and friend and avid supporter of Chris."

In that, Bush joined the throngs who paid tribute to a woman who was ranked No. 1 in the world eight

times during her career. "Can't get any better than that," Evert said of Bush's participation in her enshrinement. "It's the best."

"He's welcomed us into his family. He always remembers his friends and his family. He still remains very down to earth."

Following the ceremony, Bush and Evert went to a practice court and played a friendly doubles match against Hall of Fame vice president Pam Shriver, still a touring pro, and Mill.

Until she retired, Evert said she didn't have time to consider the titles she was busy winning.

"When you're a player, you're just concerned about the now," Evert said of her place in history. "I feel a part of it now."

Known for her tenacity and her poise, two Evert records may never be matched, let alone broken. She won 125 consecutive matches on clay from Au-

gust 1973 to May 1979, when she lost to Tracy Austin in the Italian Open semifinals. Ironically, Austin, whose career was halted by injury, entered the Hall of Fame three years ago, although she's younger than Evert.

Another unapproachable Evert record is her reaching the semifinals or better in 52 of the 56 Grand Slam tournaments in which she played.

"I don't miss the pressure," she said. "It's not the best thing and it begins playing tricks with you. But I miss playing great tennis. Because I worked so hard...there's no moment like it."

Now a mother of two sons, Evert on Sunday was again a winner. "I hope I can be a role model to the young people who have a dream," she said. "I wasn't the best athlete or the quickest or the strongest. But anything is possible if you want it bad enough."

Prinosil beats Wheaton for 1st ATP title

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (AP) — Sixth-seeded David Prinosil used a blistering first serve and strong service return Sunday to upset defending champion David Wheaton in the Hall of Fame tennis championships.

Prinosil won 7-6 (7-3), 5-7, 6-2 for his first ATP Tour title. The 22-year-old Czech native and German citizen had 16 aces and won 85 per cent of the points on his first serve.

Prinosil said after losing the second set, he tried to concentrate more. "I had the chance to win the second set, but I stayed in the match and I just kept going and felt better and better," he said.

"I knew he had a good serve going in and he proved it," said Wheaton, who had not dropped a set in four previous matches. "It wasn't only his serve, he returned my serve very well. He just returned better than anyone else the whole week against me."

Wheaton, seeded No. 1, appeared to gain momentum in the second set when he broke Prinosil to go up 6-5, then served out the set after two deuces. But Prinosil held at love in the opening game of the third set and broke Wheaton in the fourth game.

"I played a careless game at 2-1," Wheaton said. "I missed a couple of volleys and that was crucial. Once he won that game he played a good game to go up 4-1 and he was really on a roll."

Prinosil broke Wheaton in the final game, rocketing a forehand winner off Wheaton's serve on match point and letting out a yelp of delight.

Prinosil started slowly, needing six deuces just to hold serve 1-1 in the first set. But then he broke Wheaton at love and held serve with an ace to go up 3-1.

Trailing love-40, Wheaton surprised Prinosil with an underhand serve and followed it to the net, smashing home Prinosil's feeble return.

Wheaton eventually won the game and broke Prinosil to get back on serve at 3-3.

"He was returning so well. I figured this might change it up a little bit," Wheaton said of the underhand serve. "He had taken some of my best serves and hit them right by me. I knew he wouldn't be expecting it."

Prinosil admitted he was caught off guard by the underhand serve, which he said he last saw "once" in juniors.

"I just lost my concentration after that point," he said.

After splitting the next six games, Prinosil used three aces during the tiebreaker to win it 7-3 and take the first set.

Prinosil and Wheaton held serve through nine games of the second set. Prinosil, leading 5-4, was within two points of victory when Wheaton bore down, holding serve, then breaking Prinosil when

the German double-faulted on Wheaton's advantage. Wheaton served out the set when Prinosil missed two forehands at deuce.

Though Wheaton had experience and momentum on his side, Prinosil went back to his strength and used powerful first serves to hold all four service games in the final set, while breaking Wheaton twice.

Wheaton defeated Prinosil in straight sets the quarterfinals of last year's Hall of Fame tournament, the only U.S. pro event played on grass. He said he saw a different Prinosil this time.

"He really showed he was calm under pressure" out there," Wheaton said. "Last year, I won the first set and the second set, his concentration went way down. This year he was able to deal with adversity a lot better."

Prinosil collected \$32,600 for the victory, which moved his world ranking up 17 spots, to No. 75.

Hill and Schumacher reprimanded after crash

SILVERSTONE (R) — Title rivals Damon Hill and Michael Schumacher were severely reprimanded and warned about their future conduct after a controversial crash in the British Grand Prix on Sunday.

Their collision on the 44th of 61 laps overshadowing the race and a great win for Benetton driver Johnny Herbert, the Briton's first in Formula One at the 71st attempt.

The stewards said both German Schumacher, in a Benetton, and Briton Hill, driving a Williams, were partially responsible for the collision in which Hill dived down the inside at priority corner but failed to brake in time as the German moved into the corner.

The reprimand came after hearing the version of each driver and watching video replays. The pair were told future similar actions could result in severe penalties.

Benetton managing director Flavio Briatore slammed Hill as an unworthy contender for the World Drivers' Championship after the crash.

Briatore, irritated by what he perceived to be a reckless piece of driving by the Briton, said: "I am still deeply surprised at what Damon did. I believe that a driver who is challenging for the World Championship and acts in that way does not really deserve it."

Schumacher said Hill's move was "totally unnecessary and stupid." "What can I say? I think what Damon did was totally unnecessary. In fact, it was really stupid. There was no room for two cars and there is no place to overtake there."

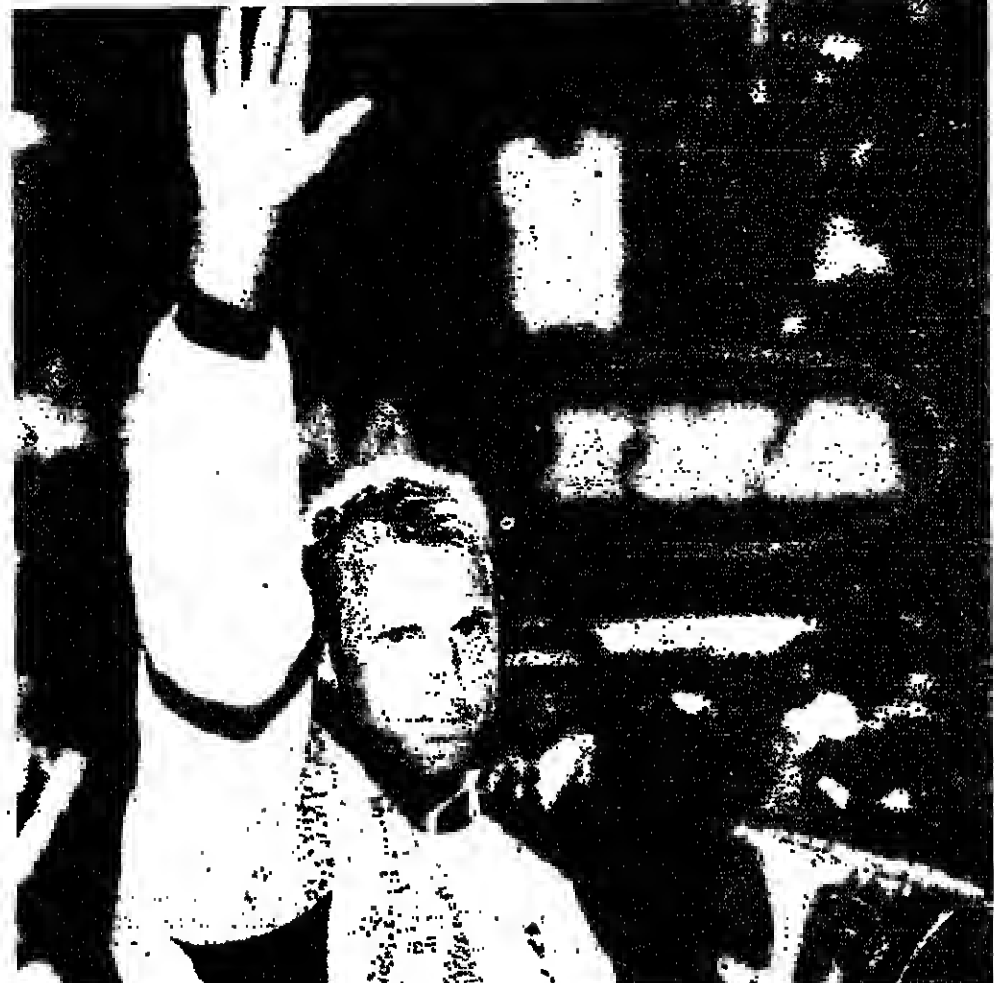
"It is such a small straight and even if you brake into it, it is almost impossible. If I had not seen there, I think he would have gone straight into the gravel."

The collision between the two main protagonists for the world title revived memories of their crash in Adelaide last year at the Australian Grand Prix and the old bitter rivalry and crashes involving Alain Prost of France and the late Ayrton Senna of Brazil.

Asked if he felt the accident would cause reprisals at the German Grand Prix at Hockenheim in two weeks time, Briatore said: "No, I don't think so. The Germans are far more intelligent than Hill."

Hill did not believe he was to blame, saying: "We were having a great race and it was very exciting."

"I thought I saw an opportunity that I could take advantage of but I am afraid that Michael is a harder man to pass than that and we had an accident which I would describe as a racing accident."



Thomas Muster

Muster prepares to bounce back

STUTTGART (AFP) — French Open champion Thomas Muster, whose remarkable 40-match winning streak on clay came to an end last week when he was beaten by Spaniard Alex Corretja at Gstaad, hopes to turn the page and reproduce his winning touch at this week's one million dollar ATP tournament here.

The powerful 27-year-old Austrian baseliner, currently ranked fourth, is clearly determined to erase all memory of his shock first-round defeat in Switzerland with a good run in Stuttgart.

"I haven't lost in a long time. It's an unfamiliar feeling for me," he said after losing to Corretja.

This week his main rival should be Spain's second-seeded Sergi Bruguera — although dangerous

Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia, who beat Bruguera in the semi-finals in Gstaad before winning the title there, will also be in the draw.

Home hopes will be pinned on Bernd Karbacher, Marc Goellner and Martin Sinner since top Germans Boris Becker and Michael Stich are not taking part.

ATP Tour money winners

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Thomas Muster (Austria) | \$1,570,229 |
| 2. Pete Sampras (U.S.) | 1,382,116 |
| 3. Andre Agassi (U.S.) | 1,244,241 |
| 4. Yevgeny Kafelnikov (Russia) | 954,046 |
| 5. Boris Becker (Germany) | 858,608 |
| 6. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) | 786,732 |
| 7. Michael Chang (U.S.) | 719,300 |
| 8. Wayne Ferreira (South Africa) | 668,586 |
| 9. Magnus Larsson (Sweden) | 652,560 |
| 10. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands) | 645,552 |
| 11. Paul Haarhuis (Netherlands) | 643,392 |
| 12. Jacco Eltingh (Netherlands) | 591,321 |
| 13. Michael Stich (Germany) | 547,617 |
| 14. Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine) | 527,612 |
| 15. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) | 517,799 |
| 16. Jonas Bjorkman (Sweden) | 505,112 |
| 17. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) | 464,009 |
| 18. Todd Woodbridge (Australia) | 452,331 |
| 19. Mark Woodforde (Australia) | 445,421 |
| 20. Jim Courier (U.S.) | 425,322 |

Kafelnikov triumphs at Gstaad

GSTAAD, Switzerland (AP) — Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov ousted Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 claiming the \$560,000 Swiss Open for his third title of the season and first ever on clay.

The victory also will move Kafelnikov, who earlier this year won in Milan, Italy, and St. Petersburg, Russia, past Goran Ivanisevic into sixth place when the ATP tour releases its computer rankings on Monday.

Hlasek never overcame the interruptions of two rain delays and appeared to lack the confidence he showed in his 6-3, 6-4 semifinal victory over Marc Rosset.

Kafelnikov, 21, who beat reigning three-time champion Sergi Bruguera in the semifinals, took control early.

Poaching hits Nantes' hopes

PARIS (AFP) — Nantes' attempt at a second consecutive French title has been hampered by two major departures from their ranks, but they remain strong favourites this season with Paris Saint Germain and Monaco.

Paris Saint Germain kick off at Bastia on Tuesday in a rematch of their League Cup final to herald the first 1995-96 fixture of Europe's major football leagues with the Tour France cycling race still running.

Nicolas Ouedec and Reynald Pedros are still there to give the Champions League hopefuls Nantes punch up front.

But leading scorer Patrice Loko, signed by Paris Saint Germain for an undisclosed fee on Saturday, and defender-cum-midfielder Christian Karembou, who joined Italy's Sampdoria for 4.5 million dollars, have flown the nest.

Nantes, facing bankruptcy two years ago, could not re-

fuse the offers for the New Caledonia-born French international and Loko. Both were determined to leave.

Pedros extended his contract by a year but several other squad members only stayed because they were unable to find buyers.

But Nantes coach Jean-Claude Suaudeau has no doubts the dissenters have already fallen in line and will give their all for Nantes.

"Of course there is a passion which is burning within most of my players," but I know certain people have changed their attitude and that will only benefit the group," Suaudeau said.

Two new recruits — both French under-21 internationals — could play a major role this season.

Rennes midfielder Jocelyn Gourvennec and Montpellier defender Bruno Caroit have already impressed Suaudeau in two summer friendlies.

But Suaudeau does not expect to match last year's league campaign when Nantes lost just one match.

Their first match of the new season is at home to Auxerre on Wednesday and by September the holders will have also played championship contenders PSG and Bordeaux.

Paris Saint Germain, who in the last three seasons have reached the semi-finals of all three European competitions, have knocked everything down to start again.

George Weah has gone to AC Milan, David Ginola to Newcastle, Brazilians Valdo and Ricardo have signed for Portugal's Benfica, and Antoine Kombouare has gone to Switzerland's Sion.

PSG coach Luis Fernandez will be expecting much of Panamanian striker Dely Valdés, signed from Cagliari, and 27-year-old midfielder Youri Djorkacff from Monaco.

Colin Jackson left off World Championship team

BIRMINGHAM (AP) — Angry British track officials on Monday left world champion hurdler Colin Jackson off the team for next month's World Championships in Sweden.

The British Athletic Federation, however, said Jackson could be reinstated if he proves his "competitive fitness" in time for the Aug.

4-13 championships in Goteborg.

Jackson pulled out of the national championships in Birmingham on Saturday after running in one heat, citing a groin muscle injury.

However, he turned up at a meet Sunday in Padua, Italy, and won the 110-metre hurdles. He reportedly received an appearance fee of \$35,000.

"I am surprised and disappointed that Colin was not able to perform in front of a British crowd, but ran well so soon afterwards," BAF executive chairman Peter Radford said.

He said Jackson would be asked for an explanation. Team coach Malcolm Arnold, who has coached

Jackson since he was 16, said, "I feel very disappointed at what has happened."

Jackson set the world record of 12.91 seconds when he won the sprint hurdles at the 1993 World Championship in Stuttgart, Germany. He has been below form for most of this season.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p>TODAY AT</p> | <p>CINEMA TEL:634144</p> <p>PHILADELPHIA</p> <p>Harrison Ford with William Dafe & Anne Archer in</p> <p>Clear & Present Danger</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> | <p>CINEMA TEL:699238</p> <p>PLAZA</p> <p>Charlie Sheen & Kristy Swanson in</p> <p>The Chase</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 8:30, 10:30</p> | <p>CINEMA TEL:677420</p> <p>CONCORD</p> <p>CONCORD "1"</p> <p>The best love story</p> <p>Only you</p> <p>SHOWS: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> <p>CONCORD "2"</p> <p>Baby's Day Out</p> <p>Shows: 3:30, 5:30, 11</p> | <p>AMMOON THEATRE</p> <p>TEL:618274 - 618275</p> <p>MUSA HIJAZIN "sumaa" IN</p> <p>Hi Citizen</p> <p>daily at 8:30 pm</p> <p>written & directed by Mohammed Shawaqfeh</p> | <p>Nabil Al Mashini Theatre</p> <p>TEL:675571</p> <p>Presents</p> <p>KABARET</p> <p>Abeer Issa</p> <p>Ghassan Mashini with Amer khamash, Khalil Jahmani, Mohammad Hussein and Issam Al Hanballi</p> <p>The theatre closes on Monday</p> <p>Performances start at 8:30 p.m.</p> | <p>Nabil & Hisham's Tel:625155</p> <p>AHLAN THEATRE</p> <p>presents</p> <p>(Ahlan Tatbee)</p> <p>Welcome</p> <p>Normalisation</p> <p>Shows start at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>For reservation please call tel. 625155 Amman</p> |
|------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|---|

double-faulted... advantage... out the set... missed two... deuce... heaton had ex... momentum on... went back to... used power... to hold all four... in the final set... Wheaton... defeated Prinosil... the quarterfin... Hall of Fame... the only U.S... ed on grass. He... different Prino... showed he was... pressure... on said. "Last... the first set... t. his concentra... way down. This... ble to deal with... ot better... collected \$32,600... y, which moved... king up 17 spots.



Miguel Indurain

Indurain plays waiting game

GUZET-NEIGE, France (AP) — Monday was no day of rest for challengers in the Tour de France. It was a time to look for ways to catch Tour de France leader Miguel Indurain.

They haven't so far. As the tour enters its final week, Indurain has his fifth consecutive title virtually locked up. Only sickness or an accident can keep Indurain from entering the history books as the first rider to win five in a row.

Belgian Eddy Merckx and Frenchman Jacques Anquetil and Bernard Hinault are the other five-time winners, but none ever put together a string to match the Spaniard. The race begins two days in the mountains on Tuesday, then features an individual time trial on Saturday. The race ends in Paris on July 23 after completing a clockwise loop of approximately 3,635 kilometres (2,254 miles).

The challengers may take their chances and try to make breakaways, but all Indurain has to do is accelerate in the final miles to limit the margin and wait for the next day.

Indurain turned 31 on Sunday and celebrated his birthday the same way he has done in the last few years — wearing the leader's yellow jersey.

He came in third in Sunday's 14th stage on the 164-kilometre leg from St. Orens de Gameville to Guzet-Neige to maintain his lead.

Italy's Marco Pantani took the stage as the race came to

the edge of the Pyrenees. The 25-year-old Pantani, third in last year's tour, won the difficult L'A-e D'Huez mountain stage last week. He attacked over the last 40 kilometres, with four climbs of varying degrees left in the stage.

pack until the last four kilometres (1.2 miles), when he accelerated and almost caught Madonas at the finish. Alex Zülle of Switzerland, runnersup in the overall standings, sprinted with Indurain but lost a couple seconds and now trails by

Tour de France

He built an advantage of almost three minutes over the pack entering the final climb, which as a category one section ranks among the toughest under the tour definition of steepness, length and difficulty.

With rain and fog over the last hour of the race, Pantani won by 2 minutes, 31 seconds over Laurent Madonas of France.

Pantani moved to seventh overall, but is still a daunting 10:07 behind Indurain.

Indurain was in the main

2:46. "I wasn't afraid of the attack of Pantani because he was still down in the standings," Indurain said. "But I was afraid of falls because of the rain and fog."

Laurent Jalabert of France remained third overall, but lost almost a minute to fourth-place Bjørn Riis of Denmark.

"As to the others, I am controlling them," Indurain said. "It's a cat-and-mouse game and Jalabert is starting to pay for his efforts."

OVERALL STANDINGS (After 14 stages)

1. Miguel Indurain, Spain, Basco, 63:28:29
2. Alex Zülle, Switzerland, Once, 2:46 behind.
3. Laurent Jalabert, France, Once, 4:28.
4. Bjørn Riis, Denmark, Gewiss, 9:01
5. Ivan Gotti, Italy, Gewiss, 9:01
6. Melchor Mauri, Spain, Once, 9:24
7. Marco Pantani, Italy, Carrera, 10:07
8. Tony Rominger, Switzerland, Mapei, 12:03
9. Fernando Escarín, Spain, Mapei, 15:17
10. Hernan Buenahora, Colombia, Kelme, 15:23
11. Claudio Chiappucci, Italy, Carrera, 15:52
12. Laurent Madonas, France, Castorama, 17:22
13. Richard Virenque, France, Festina, 17:28
14. Paolo Lanfranchi, Italy, Brescialla, 21:43
15. Bruno Cenghialta, Italy, Gewiss, 23:50

33 boxers test HIV-positive in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Thirty-three South African professional boxers have been refused licences after testing positive for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which causes AIDS, a doctor said on Monday.

Sam Pitsoe, a doctor employed by the South African Boxing Control Commission, said the AIDS test was included in the standard medical examination in 1994 after a champion fighter tested positive in Las Vegas.

"We decided to include the HIV test in the examination for the safety of the boxers," Pitsoe told Reuters.

He said 1994 figures showed the boxers, ranging in age from 22 to 37, included up to 10 who had fought in international competitions. Figures for this year are not yet available.

"Natal seems to have the highest number and the western Cape the lowest," he said.

Pitsoe said he suspected KwaZulu-Natal had the highest number of HIV-positive boxers because of the many prostitutes in the area. "I think maybe (Natal's figure is higher) because of the prostitutes who are infected by sailors coming through (Durban) harbour," he said.

Lions roar again

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — Former champions Cameroon bounced back into contention for a place at the 1996 African Nations' Cup finals with an unexpected 3-1 away victory over Malawi in Group 1 at the weekend.

The result ensured Zaire qualified from the four-team section, and the Indomitable Lions will join them in South Africa next January provided they avoid defeat when Zimbabwe visit the Adanipon of Douala on July 30.

rewarded after 55 minutes when Chance Gondwe chipped a free kick to John Maduka, whose shot gave William Andem no chance.

But Cameroon were unruffled by the setback and scored the decisive third goal midway through the second period when Mouyeme rose to head home a right-wing cross.

The Lions, who had lost in Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Zaire, often baffled the nervous Malawians with the simplicity of their tactics, concentrating on long balls to an attack full of pace and invention.

Mozambique took a giant step towards qualifying from Group 6 when they overcame pacesetters Angola 2-1 in a clash of Portuguese-speaking nations in Maputo.

Defender Sergio "Faife" Matola put the Mozambicans ahead in the 15th minutes and Emmanuel "Nana" Matola made it 2-0 within 60 seconds of the restart at a packed Machava Stadium.

Antonio "Paulao" Alves from Lisbon club Benfica pulled-one back after 75 minutes for Angola, who suffered their first reverse since losing 3-1 in Guinea last October.

Mozambique have 13 points, one more than Angola, and both are guaranteed places at the showpiece of African soccer if they win their final fixtures.

AFRICAN SOCCER

Although spurred on by a capacity 60,000 crowd, including President Bakili Muluzi, in Blantyre, Malawi conceded a goal after only five minutes against a country which lifted the title in 1984 and 1988.

Sunday Jang floated a free-kick into the Malawian goalmouth, where Joseph Mbarga shrugged off a defender and scored as goalkeeper Ganizani Masiye dived the wrong way.

Mbarga, an experienced forward who helped Cameroon reach the 1994 World Cup finals, turned creator for the second goal three minutes before half-time.

He pushed a free kick to French-based Georges Mouyeme, who claimed his third goal of the qualifying competition with a fierce 35-metre drive past a stunned Masiye.

A livelier Malawian side opened the second half with a series of attacks and were

Fangio, the humble champion, dies

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Juan Manuel Fangio, widely regarded as the greatest racing driver of them all, was a modest man who put his record five World Championships down to luck.

The Argentine dominated Grand Prix racing in the 1950s by winning 24 of the 51 races he contested.

Once asked for the secret of his success, he replied: "Seventy-five per cent of it is car and the team around it. Only 25 per cent is the driver... and much of that is to do with luck. I am surprised that so many people remember what I did — All my life I have been very lucky."

Aggressive in the cockpit, he was a gentle, friendly and likeable person off the track.

"Motor racing is something you must do with passion," he said when he quit in 1958. "You must love it as a painter loves to paint and it requires great dedication."

Fangio's 24 Grand Prix victories put him seventh in the all-time rankings, behind Alain Prost (France) 51, Ayrton Senna (Brazil) 41, Nigel Mansell (Britain) 31, Jackie Stewart (Britain) 27, Jim Clark (Britain) and Niki Lauda (Austria), both 25.

Born in Balcarce in the province of Buenos Aires on June 24, 1911, Fangio was the son of a stonemason from a large family of Italian immigrants.

Starting work as an apprentice mechanic at the age of 13, he soon learned how to prepare and race cars with his brother Toto.

Fangio was also a good footballer, his teammates dubbing him "El Chueco" (bandy-legs), a nickname which stuck with him the world over. He was unmarried.

His racing debut came in a modified taxi on October 24, 1936, in a local race. During World War II, he achieved national fame in races over enormous distances on dirt roads normally used only by bullock carts.

But he had to wait until 1940 for his first win, the long-distance Grand Premio De Norte, an endurance event lasting several days from Buenos Aires over the Andes to Lima, Peru.

"That taught me about control, gave me the sensitivity to understand a car," he said. "Driving fast on mud roads, you have to feel the wheels through your backside."

Fangio was 38 when he started his professional racing career in Europe in 1948. Alfa Romeo subsequently contracted him for the inaugural world drivers' championship in 1950.

He won his first Grand Prix in his second race and drove to victory in two others that year. The following season he again won three, enough to take the first of his five titles.

He also took the crown in four successive years from 1954 to 1957, the first two with Mercedes and then Ferrari and Maserati.

Those were dangerous days for drivers and it was as much Fangio's achievement that he survived as that he won so often.

"Do you know," he said in 1990, "that in my 10 years of driving in Europe, I saw 30 of my friends and rivals killed?"

His most serious accident was in 1952 when he crashed his Maserati in the Monza Grand Prix, breaking his neck.

Many thought he was finished. But he was back the following season and then regained the world title for Maserati in 1954, retaining it for the next three years driving for Mercedes-Benz, Ferrari and Maserati again.

His greatest victory came in 1957 German Grand Prix at the daunting Nuerburgring circuit.

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Colombia, Uruguay scrape to semis

MONTEVIDEO (Agencies) — Host Uruguay and re-surgent Colombia kept their dreams of Copa America success alive Sunday by clinching a place in the semifinals. But both teams had to sweat to get there.

Colombia scored a second-half goal to draw even 1-1 and then outlasted Paraguay on penalties 5-4, securing the victory when goalkeeper Rene Higuita dived and punched away Paraguay's last attempt by Carlos Gamarra.

It was a resurrection for Higuita, who was dubbed the villain after allowing a goal on a lob from 30 yards against Peru and letting in a bizarre goal direct from a corner against Brazil on Thursday.

"It wasn't revenge," Higuita said. "I've always felt confident in what I do and I've never been short on faith." "When it comes to penalties the pressure is on the player taking it. The goalkeeper is the winner if he saves it but if not, that's not a problem. Today it was my turn to win," he said.

Colombia's coach Hernan Dario Gomez said his team deserved to win in the 90 and that his team had definitely bounced back after a 2-0 loss Thursday to Brazil.

"This team has better tactics than the one which played in the World Cup finals," he said. "Every match we're getting better and better."

In the day's second game, Uruguay left its 40,000 fans in the stadium on edge when it nearly squandered a 2-0 lead over Bolivia. With 18 minutes left, Bolivia drew within a goal and had clear chances to equalise and send the match to a shootout.

Uruguay held on frantically to win 2-1. The host nation, who have not pleased local critics with their performances, played excellently for the first 30 minutes, in which they scored twice.

They then reverted to the sterile, disjointed soccer which has angered their own fans throughout the competition, allowing Bolivia to pull a goal back and forcing their supporters to endure a tense finale.

Uruguay, once a power in international soccer, did not qualify for the last World Cup and are keen to win the Copa to revive their fortunes. They were edged out of the second qualifying place in their group by the Bolivians.

Uruguay made a dream start when striker Marcelo Otero scored in the second minute, receiving a nicely-flicked pass

from Enzo Francescoli and hitting the ball first time into the far corner of the goal.

Bolivia hardly had a look in for the next half hour as Uruguay, inspired in midfield by the veteran Francescoli, caused their defence endless suffering.

Midfielder Gustavo Poyet, who plays for Spanish club Real Zaragoza, missed two clearcut chances before Daniel Fonseca, of Italian club Roma, scored the second after half an hour.

Francescoli chipped a free kick over the Bolivian wall and Fonseca attempted to hook the ball into the goal. He did not make full contact but did enough to divert the ball beyond Bolivia goalkeeper Carlos Trucco.

Copa America

Fonseca injured himself as he stretched for the ball and had to be substituted by Ruben Sosa.

Sosa, a world class striker, seems to have been suffering the effects of an unhappy season with his Italian club Internazionale and has not played well in the Copa America.

Uruguay, who have hosted the competition six times before and won on every occasion, lost their rhythm after Fonseca went off.

The only time Sosa had a chance to score, early in the second half, his shot posed more of a threat to passing aircraft than to Bolivia's goal.

Bolivia, who exchanged their white shirts for green ones at halftime, came back with a new lease of life for the second 45 minutes.

Full-back Luis Cristaldo had already shaved the Uruguayan post with a low 20-metre shot before midfielder Oscar Sanchez pulled a goal back with 19 minutes left.

Marco Etcheverry floated a free kick across the area and Sanchez, who found himself unmarked, headed home from six metres.

That ensured a worrying end for the fans in the Centenario stadium, which for the first time in the tournament was nearly full, but Uruguay held on for a semi-final tie with Colombia on Wednesday.

Los Angeles still seen as Olympic model

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After a sea of red ink in Montreal and a boycott that made the games in Moscow virtually an east bloc affair, Los Angeles got the Olympics nobody else wanted — and turned them into a rousing success.

The 1984 summer games revitalised the Olympic movement, established a fresh approach to the globe's biggest sports festival and, for two festive weeks that August, gave this city some of its finest moments.

With Tebran the only other city to lodge a bid, then backing out because of civil turmoil, Los Angeles staged the games practically without a hitch, even though the Soviets led their own boycott.

The Los Angeles Olympic

organising committee, headed by marketing expert Peter Ueberroth, changed the financial foundation of the Games, for 1984 and beyond, by selling corporate sponsorships.

In addition to the \$225 million paid by ABC for the American television rights, another \$140 million came from corporate sponsors. Ticket sales exceeded expectations, nearly selling out, and topped \$100 million.

The first free-enterprise Olympics, with no government funding, also turned out to be the first profitable Olympics, finishing with \$225 million ahead.

The uniqueness of the '84 Games had to do with the fact that we worked cooperatively with government,"

said Anita DeFranz, who was in charge of the Olympic athletes' housing at the University of Southern California 11 years ago and now is a member of the International Olympic Committee executive board. "We paid for extra services from government, such as security, but ours was a contractual relationship with government."

The profit also was possible because of the existing sports facilities in the sprawling Los Angeles area.

The coliseum, which was built in 1923 for \$600,000 and served as the centerpiece of LA's other Olympics — in 1932, was used for athletics and opening and closing ceremonies in 1984. Soccer was held at the Rose Bowl, basketball at the Forum, gym-

nastics at Pauley pavilion, volleyball at the Long Beach arena and wrestling at the Anaheim Convention Centre. Athletes were housed mostly at the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) and the University of Southern California (USC).

A few new facilities were built, such as a swim stadium at USC and a velodrome in Dominguez Hills, but the cost was minimal because of corporate sponsorship.

The profit after the games was divided among the U.S. Olympic committee and various national sports federations, which received 60 per cent, and the (U.S.) Amateur Athletic Foundation in Los Angeles, which received the other 40 per cent.

Andretti ends frustration with victory

TORONTO (AP) — Michael Andretti ended his season-long frustration by outduelling Bobby Rahal and winning Sunday's Toronto Molson Indy, his first victory since last year's Toronto race.

It was the fifth victory on the 2.86-kilometre, 11-turn temporary street circuit for Andretti, as well as the 30th career victory for the 33-year-old driver, the leading active winner on the Indy-car circuit.

"I love this place," Andretti said. "My crew did a great job today on pit strategy. That's what won us the race, and we had two great pit stops."

Andretti, son of longtime racing star Mario Andretti, saw his lead over compatriot Rahal bounce between 2½ seconds and one-tenth of a second over the last 30 laps of the 98-lap event.

But Rahal, a three-time series champion and 1986 Toronto winner, couldn't

quite run down Andretti's Lola-Ford. The final margin was just 0.425-seconds, about three car-lengths.

"With about 15 laps to go, the water temperature was going off the clock," said Rahal, who also finished second here last year. "My crew said to be careful and back off. When I'd get close to him, the alarm went off. I'm just lucky to finish second."

Andretti's only real dangerous moment came on lap 76 when he was trailing the lapped cars of fellow Americans Danny Sullivan and Eddie Cheever and was just in front of Rahal.

Sullivan managed to squeeze by Cheever on the inside and Andretti's followed, but Cheever moved over and the two bumped, bouncing Andretti's rear off the concrete barrier. Rahal tried to drive around the slowing Andretti, but the leader recovered and stayed

out front.

Jacques Villeneuve, a Canadian and the crowd favorite, started from the pole for the third straight race and wound up third, retaining his lead in what now appears to be a four-way battle for the PPG Cup championship.

With six races remaining, Villeneuve leads second-place Rahal 118-94, followed by fifth-place finisher Robby Gordon of the United States with 91 and Andretti 90.

Villeneuve led the first 23 laps before giving up the top spot to Andretti when he made his first pit stop. Andretti, the 1991 series champion, led the rest of the

way except for one lap during the final round of pit stops, when he gave it briefly back to the 24-year-old Canadian.

Italy's Teo Fagioli was just behind Villeneuve in fourth, followed by Gordon, Brazilian Raul Boesel, Mexico's Andrian Fernandez and Canadian Paul Tracy.

The first 17 laps of the race were relatively uneventful except for a first-lap collision between Sweden's Stefan Johansson and American Bryan Herta that knocked Herta out of the race.

But it then got very busy as Al Unser Jr. the defending series champion and a former Toronto winner, tried to pass Rahal on the inside.

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Serbs threaten peacekeepers as world consults on action

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Serbs maintained pressure on the Zepa enclave Monday while threatening peacekeepers and blasting another enclave with rockets as world opinion backed stiffer U.N. action in Bosnia.

Bosnian government defenders and Bosnian Serb forces traded mortars Monday west of the Zepa enclave but U.N. officials said fighting was limited.

In the northwest of the country another enclave, Bibac, was hit by two ground to ground missiles. There were reports of damage and casualties though this was not confirmed by the U.N. peacekeepers on the ground.

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind meanwhile warned in Brussels that proposals to send fresh Western troops into Gorazde, one of two remaining U.N.-declared safe areas in eastern Bosnia, could founder if the U.S. did not provide attack and transport helicopters.

However, White House national adviser Anthony Lake said U.N. forces should take "more vigorous action" in the face of Serb attacks on safe areas. U.S. government officials were to meet Monday with joint chiefs of staff chairman, General John Shalikashvili, to review his talks Sunday in London with French and British counterparts on Bosnia.

According to a White House spokesman however, these discussions failed to answer all the U.S. concerns about plans for Gorazde. Michael McCurry said Sunday's talks were a "substantive discussion over a variety of proposals."

The U.S. magazine Newsweek said Gen. Shalikashvili proposed flying 1,000 French troops to Gorazde in what would be the largest helicopter mission since the Vietnam war.

France wants part of the 12,000-strong rapid reaction force (RRF) deployed to prevent Gorazde falling into the hands of the Bosnian Serbs, who conquered Srebrenica

last week and are now threatening Zepa.

This call for direct action initiated by President Jacques Chirac won support from some Euro-MPs and the French media.

Russia's Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev was a lone voice calling for diplomacy to be given another chance. "Those who think all the political options have been explored are wrong," he said, criticising the "acceleration of military action."

In Zepa, a Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) company commander told Ukrainian peacekeepers manning a post just outside the enclave that they would be attacked if NATO planes appeared over the enclave, U.N. spokesman Alexander Ivankov said.

On Sunday, NATO air-planes roared over the threatened enclave in a show of force but took no action.

NATO "air presence," as the U.N. terms it, was requested following BSA mortar and tank attacks on Zepa town where U.N. peacekeepers are based.

Bosnian army defenders of the threatened enclave claimed Monday to have repulsed Sunday's Serb attacks against the safe area. This was supported in part by U.N. assessments.

"Yes, there is resistance," said U.N. spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Gary Coward.

Zepa's defenders were armed with mortars but there was little the U.N. peacekeepers themselves could do to help. "We have NATO air power at our disposal but it is of limited utility," Gen. Coward said.

"They are holding the line. They have not fled. They do have mortars, we can only watch and see how the battle develops," the U.N. spokesman said.

U.N. observers put the BSA soldiers some 1.5 kilometres from the town itself. According to Bosnian radio Zepa's population of roughly 12,000 have been mobilised for the defence of the area.

The 79 Ukrainian peacekeepers in Zepa have for the most part withdrawn into their main base in the town though a U.N. presence was still at three U.N. posts elsewhere in the enclave.

Meanwhile in Tuzla, where 30,000 people expelled by Bosnian Serbs after they overran the fallen Srebrenica enclave have settled, reports began to emerge of several thousand men having escaped the Bosnian Serb assault on the U.N. safe area.

The city's mayor, Selim Beslagic, was quoted by Bosnian independent radio as saying that 6,000 people had slipped away from last week's Serb assault including 3,500 soldiers who had begun to arrive in Tuzla.

Islamic group to meet

Meanwhile the nine-member contact group of the Organisation of Islamic Conference will hold an emergency meeting July 21 in Rabat, Morocco, on the worsening situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, officials said Monday.

The contact group is to chalk out concrete plans to save the U.N. safe havens for Bosnia's beleaguered Muslims, according to the officials at the 52-member, Jeddah-based organisation, umbrella for the world's Islamic nations.

The group comprises Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Pakistan, Malaysia, Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Senegal and the OIC secretary-general Hamid Al Gaid.

It will meet at ministerial level for one day under the chairmanship of Moroccan Prime Minister Abdellatif Filali.

Iran, Egypt and Morocco have been lobbying for an emergency session of the contact group, which last met in Rabat in May.

Diplomatic sources said the OIC has been under tremendous pressure from several Muslim states to find ways to help Bosnia government from being routed by the encircling Serbs.



ROYAL VISIT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Monday paid field visits to several army units and formations. Prince Hassan's visit included several of the air defence units and the artillery corps of the Fifth Royal Armoured Division. The Crown Prince was briefed by the commanders of the formations and units on the progress of training programmes and was familiarised with duties assigned to them. The Prince also watched military exercises and took part in some training activities. Earlier in the day, Prince Hassan visited Al Hussein Air College and met with

young students participating in Al Hussein Air Camps. Prince Hassan stressed the importance of the youth in building the future of the country and briefed them on the role of the Armed Forces in enhancing the feelings of belonging and safeguarding the Kingdom's democracy. The Crown Prince also talked about Jordanian-Palestinian relations and affirmed Jordan's keenness to continue its support for the Palestinian people. The Prince concluded his tour by visiting the Fifth Royal Armoured Division Command and meeting its senior officers.

Palestinian press law bars reports on police activities

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Monday unveiled a press law that includes limits on reporting about Palestinian police operations and threatens violations with fines and jail terms.

The 18-page law, a copy of which was obtained by the Associated Press, is to take effect in the Gaza Strip and West Bank on July 25, the day PLO and Israeli negotiators are scheduled to wrap up negotiations on extending self-rule to the West Bank.

The law, whose details were not previously revealed, was signed by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on June 25 after being approved by his 18-member self-rule cabinet in Gaza a week earlier.

Hatem Abdul Qader, head of the publication department of the Palestinian information ministry, said the law was lenient "compared to laws in Syria, Egypt and Jordan."

He noted the Palestinians were not demanding stories be submitted to censors before publication — as does Israel in some cases.

"We are not restricting press operations. We are regulating it. Absolute freedom is anarchy," Mr. Abdul Qader said.

Hanan Ashrawi, a former Arafat spokeswoman who founded a commission to monitor Palestinian human rights and law enforcement, said her organisation was studying the document and had no immediate comment.

Article 2 of the law promises Palestinians the right to "express opinions freely in speech, writing and pictures through the media."

But Article 37 bans publication of "secret information" on police or other PLO troops — including the types of weapons they use, their ammunition, bases, training camps and deployments.

The penalty for violating the ban is suspension of a publication for up to three months in addition to fines and a jail term of up to six months.

Mr. Arafat ordered the closure of an Islamic fundamentalist weekly for 30 days and another for 40 days earlier this year. He banned circulation of the Jerusalem-based An Nahar last year for 40 days, forcing the closure of the paper for that period.

Besides Mr. Hutchings, the other four hostages are Britons Paul Wells and Keith Mangan, German Dirk Haset and Norwegian Hans Christian Ostro.

Indian authorities, who have maintained a studied silence on the demand by Al Faran, denounced the latest threat and urged the militants to free the hostages on humanitarian grounds.

"It is unfortunate they are making these threats when the Organisation of Islamic Conference, Amnesty International and all (other) militants in Kashmir have condemned the kidnappings," a government spokesman said in New Delhi.

IAF says it was winner in last week's municipal elections

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Islamic Action Front Party Monday described the win of 25 out of 68 of its candidates in last week's municipal elections as a victory and that the final results in Zarqa were not representative of the movement's popularity.

"We are surprised to hear from the minister of municipal affairs, Nader Thukhairat, that the percentage of Islamicists success in the elections was only three per cent," said IAF General Secretary Ishaq Farhan at a press conference held at the party's headquarters.

"The percentage of those who won should be in relation to the number of candidates the party fielded in the elections and not on the total number of members and mayors of the 259 councils."

Dr. Farhan said that in the capital, the party named seven candidates but only

three won; in Kerak, the party's six candidates all won; in Madaba, seven out of ten candidates won; in Irbid, only four out of ten won; in Aqaba, two out of six candidates won; in Mafrqa, one out of nine candidates won. In Tafleeh all six candidates lost; and in Jerash two out of six candidates won.

As for Zarqa and Russeif, where the IAF was harshly defeated and IAF candidates won, Dr. Farhan said the party withdrew its candidates from both cities in protest of what he said was the "government's flagrant interference" in the elections.

Dr. Farhan said that in the case of the two candidates who won in Russeif and who decided to hold office despite the IAF's withdrawal decision will be studied and "a severe action will be taken against them" by the party's leadership.

The front said its participation in the municipal elections was a partial, and that the number of candidates who won were one third of the total number of candidates the front named.

"Our participation in the elections was only meant as a test for the government's credibility," said Abdolabb Akaleh, a Lower House of Parliament deputy. "Our expectations turned out to be true."

Dr. Farhan claimed that the government facilitated procedures for pro-government candidates and put obstacles in front of other candidates, especially the IAF's.

"What the government did, and especially in Zarqa, has very serious implications on the country," he said. "These actions could make the government lose its credibility at the national and international levels when talking about enhancing democracy in Jordan."

U.S. congressman Richardson pays tribute to Iraqi president for release of two Americans

By Amy Henderson
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — U.S. Congressman Bill Richardson, who arrived in Amman Monday, said he appreciated Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's humanitarian gesture in the release of two American prisoners held in Iraq since mid-March.

Mr. Richardson, a New Mexico Democrat, arrived with the two American men, William Barloon, 39, of New Hampton, Iowa and David Daliberti, 41, of Jacksonville, Florida who were pardoned and ordered immediately released Sunday by President Hussein.

"I thank the government of Iraq for the humanitarian release (of these men)," said Mr. Richardson, calling Mr. Barloon and Mr. Daliberti "victims in an international chess game." He also gave credit to Iraq ambassador to the United States Nizar Hamdoun with whom he said he had eight secret meetings in the past 60 days at the United Nations in New York.

Mr. Richardson said that he met with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for one hour Sunday with a request that the Americans be released on humanitarian grounds. "(Saddam Hussein) responded to the humanitarian appeal," Mr. Richardson

said of the meeting, which was also attended by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz. "Hussein was tough and is a very strong individual, and he let us know his views on a number of issues," he said without elaborating further.

The congressman did not comment on the possibility of lifting the five-year sanctions that have devastated the Iraqi economy, but said that he "supported U.S. foreign policy and continuing sanctions." "My hope is that Iraq complies (with U.N. resolutions) especially in the biological arena," he said.

Trade sanctions on Iraq were extended last month for another 60-day period on grounds that Iraq had not accounted for missing biological weapons materials.

President Bill Clinton spoke by telephone with the two Americans and told them he was "ecstatic" at their release, the White House said.

Presidential Press Secretary Mike McCurry said Mr. Clinton had reached the two at the U.S. ambassador's residence in Amman, "congratulated both of them on enduring this ordeal."

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher Sunday called the prisoners release "an important first step" that



Queen Elizabeth on diet — paper

LONDON (R) — Britain's Queen Elizabeth, who has been praised for keeping her figure over the years, has been put on a low-fat diet, the Daily Mail reported Monday. Doctors told her to switch to the low-cholesterol diet, cutting out dairy products and eggs, after she complained of tiredness, the newspaper said. It said the queen, 69, who does not smoke and reportedly eats and drinks in moderation, had put on a little weight. "She is certainly missing some of her favourite foods," the newspaper quoted an unidentified source at Buckingham Palace as saying.

Tears as Imran's wife leaves for new life

LONDON (R) — British heiress Jemima Goldsmith was in tears with her family as she left for a new life with her bridegroom, Pakistani cricket idol Imran Khan. "Don't worry — I'll look after her," Khan promised Goldsmith's mother, Lady Annabel Goldsmith, as she embraced her daughter at London's Heathrow Airport. The newlyweds, who went through separate religious and secular ceremonies in Paris and Britain last month, were passing through Saudi Arabia to visit relatives before heading for Khan's home in Pakistan.

Woman thief undone as she reveals all

TOKYO (R) — A woman who had her blouse ripped off when she tried to rob a taxi driver was arrested after witnesses saw her fleeing half-naked, Japanese police said. Hiroshi Mikami, 25, tried to snatch a bag containing around 50,000 yen (\$600) in taxi fares from Takayuki Chiba, 55, in the city of Sapporo on Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island. Her blouse was ripped off in the tussle that followed, and police, arrested her after witnesses reported seeing a naked woman running through the streets.

Vatican summons bishop over celibacy comments

DUBLIN (AP) — An Irish bishop who said the Roman Catholic Church will have to consider allowing priests to marry, has been summoned to the Vatican, Press Association reported Sunday. Bishop Brendan Comiskey of the Ferns Diocese in County Wexford said last month that the church has to consider change in the celibacy rule to halt the fall in recruitment to the ministry. Cardinal Cahill Daly, the Irish primate, publicly rebuked Bishop Comiskey after the comments were published in an interview in Dublin's Sunday Tribune. "Where there is no priest, there is no eucharist. Where there is no eucharist, there is no church," Bishop Comiskey was quoted as saying. "Options are running out for diocesan priests. This is not a theological issue. Everything that is alive changes, and these changes aren't that radical," he was quoted as saying. "You already have married Anglican priests, converts to Catholicism, ministers in London parishes, so we can't hold the line on that." Press Association, the British news agency, said Sunday that Bishop Comiskey has been ordered to clarify his position on the celibacy issue. After Card. Daly's criticism, Bishop Comiskey wrote in the Irish Times, "our priests are greatly distressed, and in some instances demoralised, by a series of sexual scandals involving the clergy and by the legitimate, if extremely painful, questions coming from a confused and bewildered laity."

Police jobs 'saved' by riots

BELFAST (AFP) — Rioting in several towns in Northern Ireland this month have prompted the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) to maintain its current staff levels, the RUC said. Cuts to the force had been envisaged as one of the dividends of the peace process which began last year with ceasefires by the Irish Republican Army and loyalist paramilitary groups.

Kaddoumi, Saleh hold talks

SANAA (AFP) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh held talks here Tuesday with PLO opponent of the SABA news agency's faction Kaddoumi, the Palestinian chief of the PLO-Isr faction. The talks were held in the capital Sanaa, where the PLO-Isr faction has been active since last year, thanks to the Palestinian struggle.

Kabariti, Shaath discuss fate of Palestinians in Israeli jails

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Planning and International Cooperation in the Palestine National Authority (PNA) Nabil Shaath met in Amman Monday with Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdul Karim Kabariti and said later that the two discussed the question of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails and issues connected with the expansion of the self-rule areas of Palestine.

"We discussed in detail the question of the detainees because we know that Jordan has exerted strenuous efforts to secure the release of the detainees and will continue to pursue efforts in this direction," said Dr. Shaath.

We also discussed Jordanian-Palestinian relations which is currently witnessing a very positive development at all levels, said Dr. Shaath.

Asked about his views ab-

out the date for the expansion of self-rule he said: "It is important for the Palestinians that Israel respect the new date for this process but what is more important is to reach an agreement that would satisfy the Palestinian people."

"We are concerned not to go under Israeli pressure to accept anything less than what was originally agreed on and, therefore, we are not only concerned about the date but also about the implementation of the agreement," added Dr. Shaath.

We are continuing the negotiations with the Israelis day and night but I cannot at this point in time guarantee that by July 25 a full agreement will be reached, though we are continuing our full efforts to achieve that goal," said Dr. Shaath.

However, he said negotiations over the question of Palestinian elections were

almost over adding that the point under discussion at the moment concerns the number of representatives in the Palestine people's council.

"We are striving to have 100 council members as we have suggested at the start of the negotiations," said Dr. Shaath, adding that there remains the question of the representation of the residents of Arab Jerusalem (see story on page 1).

"These are small issues, but the real question lies with Israel's withdrawal from the Arab towns and villages and the return of the land to its Palestinian owners," Dr. Shaath added.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Mr. Kabariti and Dr. Shaath reviewed the situation in the Palestinian lands adding that Mr. Kabariti voiced Jordan's full backing for the Palestinian endeavours.

Militants threaten to kill Western hostages in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) — Muslim guerrillas holding five Western hostages in Kashmir on Monday threatened to kill them "any time" if 21 of their jailed comrades were not freed by Indian authorities immediately.

The Al Faran group, which has claimed responsibility for the abductions, said in a hand-written statement delivered to news agencies here that it would not extend the deadline for their execution beyond Monday evening.

"There will be no extension of the deadline," the Urdu-language statement said. "The hostages may be killed at any time."

The Indian government dismissed the latest threat as "pressure tactics," while police sources said in this troubled summer capital of Kashmir that they were still in indirect contact with the abductors.

The previously unknown 11 seized two American, two British trekkers, a Somali's Pabalgam released July 4, and a German and a Norwegian in the same

area four days later after one of the Americans escaped. The militants had first threatened to execute the foreigners by Saturday evening, but extended the deadline by 48 hours.

The Western hostages, in an audio cassette also released Monday by the Al Faran, pressed their respective countries to exert pressure on India and to seek their release.

American Donald Fred Hutchings said in his message, partly directed at his wife Jane: "I am okay though we have been walking day and night on mountains. I am tired. The mujahideen have been okay to me."

"Jane I want you to know that I am okay but I do not know when I will die," he said. "Maybe today or tomorrow. Maybe this is my last communication. I appeal to India and America for help."

The Al Faran statement said it had contacted the Kashmir authorities "three days back, but the govern-

ment is not ready to talk. "The government is not showing interest in securing the release of the hostages."

"The international community, particularly those who have appealed to us (to release the foreigners), should pressurise India to stop human rights violations in Kashmir and accept our demands immediately," it said.

Besides Mr. Hutchings, the other four hostages are Britons Paul Wells and Keith Mangan, German Dirk Haset and Norwegian Hans Christian Ostro.

Indian authorities, who have maintained a studied silence on the demand by Al Faran, denounced the latest threat and urged the militants to free the hostages on humanitarian grounds.

"It is unfortunate they are making these threats when the Organisation of Islamic Conference, Amnesty International and all (other) militants in Kashmir have condemned the kidnappings," a government spokesman said in New Delhi.

ALGIERS (AFP) — An Italian national was killed Monday in the working class neighbourhood of Kouba in Algeria, diplomatic sources said.

The Italian, who was believed to be elderly, was fatally shot, the sources said. The killing brings to 85 the number of foreigners assassinated in incidents blamed on Islamic militants since Algeria's political crisis began in January 1992.

Ten Italians have been killed in Algeria. On July 7, 1994, seven sailors had their throats slit in the eastern port of Jijel.

Italian killed in Algeria; journalist jailed

The previous killings of foreigners took place on June 7, when two French nationals, Louis and Gaby Jourdan, were shot.

The latest assassination comes at a time when the Algerian press had noted a fresh outbreak of violence, including murders and sabotage, during recent days.

In the meantime, military court sentenced a journalist from the Algerian press agency, APS, to three years in prison for having divulged confidential information, the daily El Watan reported Monday.

Hadj Benaamane was sentenced last Wednesday in

Tamanrasset for having disclosed where the number two of the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), Ali Belhadj, was being detained. The information was classified as a "defence secret," El Watan said.

Two others in the same case were sentenced, with one given a four-year prison term and the other a two-year term, the newspaper said.

The report said the case was surrounded by total secrecy, and that journalists launched an appeal for solidarity with their colleague to draw attention to "the

dramatic case."

A human rights observer, Kamel Rezag-Bara, expressed "surprise at the severity of the verdict."

The newspaper said Mr. Benaamane's new lawyer did not intend to appeal.

The former lawyer, Halima Benmaghnia, quit following pressure brought against her by "certain parties concerned in the affair," the newspaper said.

A car bomb exploded near an apartment buildings housing police officers' families in a town outside the capital, wounding 14 people, a newspaper reported Monday.

Iraq name

BAGHDAD (A) — Tuesday's appointment of a new defence minister, Majid, who has been previously chief of the INA, was issued Tuesday. The official INA said, Majid was a former tough for the party boss for the new appointment. The decision was issued without the approval of the Iraqi Parliament.

Israel, Jordan 'to cooperate' — Bosnian aid

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel and Jordan are to help Bosnian refugees, a spokesman said. The spokesman said the two countries would cooperate in providing aid to the refugees. The spokesman also said that the two countries would cooperate in providing aid to the refugees.

Fighting breaks out in Iraq

SCOTIA (AFP) — Fighting broke out Monday between government forces and rebels in Iraq. The fighting was reported in the city of Mosul. The fighting was reported in the city of Mosul.

Russian FM to visit Iraq, Kuwait

RUSSIA (AFP) — Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev is to visit Iraq and Kuwait. The visit is part of a diplomatic mission to the region. The visit is part of a diplomatic mission to the region.

Iraqi foreign minister arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (AFP) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Ali Hassan al-Majid arrived in Cairo Monday. The minister is on a visit to Egypt. The minister is on a visit to Egypt.

Israel resettles families of Arab informants

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's authorities have relocated families of 750 West Bank Arab informants. The relocation is part of a security measure. The relocation is part of a security measure.

Kaddoumi, Saleh hold talks

SANAA (AFP) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh held talks here Tuesday with PLO opponent of the SABA news agency's faction Kaddoumi, the Palestinian chief of the PLO-Isr faction. The talks were held in the capital Sanaa, where the PLO-Isr faction has been active since last year, thanks to the Palestinian struggle.